THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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No. 2171.—VOL. LXXVII. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1880. WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS SIXPENCE. BY POST, 6½D.

SOLDIERS' CHURCH: A RECENT SKETCH IN AFGHANISTAN ON SUNDAY MORNING.—SEE PAGE 622.

BIRTHS.

On the 6th inst., at Las Palmas, Grand Canary, the wife of James Miller, of a daughter.

On the 18th inst., the wife of Commander the Hon. A. R. Hewitt, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 14th inst., at the parish church, Aston, by the Rev. T. P. Wilson, Vicar of Pavenham, Bedfordshire, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. W. Elliott, Vicar, and by the Rev. C. T. Wilson, brother of the bridegroom, the Rev. Theodore Cameron Wilson to Annie Fredeline, eldest daughter of C. Webb Smith, Woodcroft, Gravelly Hill, near Birmingham.

On the 16th inst., at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, Archibald Lennox Milliken Napier, Esq., eldest son of Sir Robert Milliken Napier, Bart., of Milliken, Renfrewshire, to Mary Allison Dorothy, youngest daughter of Sir Thomas Fairbairn, Bart., of Brambridge House, Hants.

DEATHS.

On the 17th inst., at 5, Crick-road, Oxford, in his 80th year, Edward Lillingwood, youngest son of the late John Blagrave, of Kingwood and Calcot Park, Berks.

On the 14th inst., at 1, Park-street, Park-lane, London, Lady Elliot, wife of Sir George Elliot, Bart.

**** The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.*

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 1, 1881.

SUNDAY, DEC. 26.

First Sunday after Christmas. St. Stephen, the first martyr. Morning Lessons: Isaiah xxxv., or Gen. iv. 1–11; Acts vi. Evening Lessons: Isaiah xxxviii. or xl., or 2 Chron. xxiv. 15–23; Acts viii. 1–9.	St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Rev. Prebendary Moore; 3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Liddon; 7 p.m., Rev. Dr. Maclear, Principal of St. Augustine's, Canterbury.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., Rev. Minor Canon J. Troutbeck; 3 p.m., Very Rev. the Dean, Dr. Stanley.	St. James's, noon, Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal.
Whitehall, 11 a.m., Rev. N. H. Stanton; 3 p.m., Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal.	Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. John Lindsay, Rector of St. Clement Danes; 7 p.m., Hon. and Rev. A. J. R. Anson, Rector of Woolwich.

MONDAY, DEC. 27.

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist. Westminster Abbey, 3 p.m., Very Rev. the Dean, Dr. Stanley.	Bank Holiday. Albert Hall Choral Society, 7 p.m. (Handel's "Messiah").

TUESDAY, DEC. 28.

Innocents' Day. Westminster Abbey; 3 p.m. (service for children), Very Rev. the Dean, Dr. Stanley.	Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Dewar on Atoms). West London Scientific Association, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone born, 1809.

Westminster Abbey, 8.30 a.m., Very Rev. the Dean, Dr. Stanley (service for Teachers of the British and Foreign School Society).

THURSDAY, DEC. 30.

Accession of Alfonso XII., King of Spain, 1874. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Dewar on Atoms).	London Institution, 7 p.m. (Mr. G. A. Storey on the Study of the Beautiful). Inventors' Institute, 8.15 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 31.

New moon, 1.56 p.m. Partial eclipse of the Sun, visible at Greenwich, 1.40 to 3.28 p.m.	Savoy, 10.30 p.m., midnight service; Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, Minor Canon of St. Paul's.

SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 1881.

Union of Great Britain and Ireland, 1801. Circumcision.	Bank Holiday in Scotland. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Dewar on Atoms).

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28′ 6″ N.; Long. 0° 18′ 47″ W. Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Thermom. Maximum, read at 10 p.m.	Thermom. Minimum, read at 10 p.m.	Wind. General Direction.	Wind. Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.
	inches.	°	°	°	0–10	°	°		Miles.	In.
Dec. 12	30·112	45·6	37·9	·76	5	49·1	43·0	W. WSW.	316	0·000
13	29·957	49·5	42·9	·80	10	52·9	43·4	WSW. W.	450	0·035
14	29·945	39·9	36·2	·87	10	51·9	36·7	W. NW. N.	256	0·365*
15	29·940	47·5	46·4	·96	8	52·4	34·4	SE. SW. W.	320	0·160
16	29·596	41·9	39·3	·91	10	47·9	39·0	SW. NE.	268	0·100
17	29·671	38·8	37·0	·73	10	40·2	36·9	NE. ENE.	479	0·010*
18	29·522	39·3	36·1	·89	8	45·9	35·5	NE. SSW. SW.	274	0·040

* Rain and snow.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:—

Barometer (in inches) corrected ..	30·121	29·987	29·927	29·632	29·536	29·724	29·609
Temperature of Air	46·9°	39·9°	44·2°	49·7°	49·0°	38·6°	36·0°
Temperature of Evaporation ..	42·2°	40·0°	44·7°	46·9°	44·6°	35·9°	35·1°
Direction of Wind	WSW.	W.	NW.	SW.	SW.	NNE.	WSW.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 1.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m
8 2	8 33	9 7	9 45	10 20	10 55	11 30	—	0 2	0 35	1 0	1 20	2 2	2 21

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ST JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

THE MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS'

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEARS' FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES.

EVERY DAY AT THREE; EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT;

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BOXING DAY, MONDAY, DEC. 27,

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SEVENTY PERFORMERS,

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MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS

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PROSCENIUM and SCENERY,

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Visitors can also book from any station on the Metropolitan or Metropolitan District Railways, right to doors of the ST. JAMES'S HALL.

Prices of Admission:—Fauteuils, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Gallery and Great Area, 1000 Seats, One Shilling.

Visitors arriving at any of the Railway Termini in the Metropolis can reach ST. JAMES'S HALL by omnibus for 3d. and 4d.

Tickets and Places can be secured by P.O.O., payable to AMBROSE AUSTIN, ST. JAMES'S HALL.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.—THE CORSICAN BROTHERS Every Night at 8.30—Louis and Fabien fet Franchi, Mr. Irving. At 7.30, BYGONES, by A. W. Pinero. Doors open at 7. Special Morning Performance of THE CORSICAN BROTHERS, Jan. 1 (Saturday), at 2.30. Box Office (Mr. Hunt) open to 10 to 5. Seats booked by letter or telegram. NOTICE.—This Theatre will be Closed on Christmas Eve.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, BISHOPSGATE.—HARLEQUIN THE WIDE-AWAKE SLEEPING BEAUTY. Written by John Douglas. Every Evening at Seven. Morning Performances, BOXING DAY, DEC. 27; TUESDAY, DEC. 28; THURSDAY, DEC. 30; SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 1881; and Every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday at One, to which Children under Ten Half-Price. (Boxing Day excepted.)

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT. CLOSED.—Will REOPEN BOXING DAY, at Three and Eight, with A MERRY CHRISTMAS, by Arthur Law. Music by King Hall; a new Sketch by Mr. Corney Grain, A MUSICAL FAMILY; and a new second Piece, SANDFORD AND MERTON'S XMAS PARTY, by F. C. Burnand; Music by A. Scott Gatty.—ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place. Admission, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s., 5s.

CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W.—Professor DEWAR, M.A., F.R.S., will deliver a COURSE of SIX LECTURES (adapted to a Juvenile Auditory) on ATOMS, commencing on TUESDAY, DEC. 28, at Three o'Clock; to be continued on Dec. 30, 1880, and Jan. 4, 6, 8, 1881. Subscription (for Non-Members) to this Course, One Guinea (Children under Sixteen, Half a Guinea); to all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. Tickets may now be obtained at the Institution.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS. WINTER EXHIBITION NOW OPEN, from Ten to Five Daily, at the SUFFOLK-STREET GALLERIES, Pall-mall East. Admission, 1s. THOS. ROBERTS, Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. The WINTER EXHIBITION, including a LOAN COLLECTION of WORKS by the late GEORGE DODGSON, is NOW OPEN, 5, Pall-mall East, from Ten till Five. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

THE ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION of High-class PICTURES by British and Foreign Artists, is NOW OPEN at ARTHUR TOOTH and SON'S GALLERY, 5, Haymarket, opposite Her Majesty's Theatre. Admission, One Shilling, including Catalogue.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. The FIFTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN from Ten till Six. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary. Gallery, 53, Pall-mall, S.W.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS.—"ECCE HOMO" ("Full of divine dignity."—The Times) and "THE ASCENSION;" "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM;" "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM," with all his other Great Pictures.—DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Daily, 10 to 6. 1s.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN.—Managers, Messrs. A. and S. Gatti.—On MONDAY NEXT, DEC. 27, will be produced the Annual Grand Christmas Comic Pantomime, written by F. C. Burnand, entitled VALENTINE AND ORSON; or, Harlequin and the Magic Shield. MORNING PERFORMANCES on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY, DEC. 29, 30, and JAN. 1, and every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday during the month. Characters in the opening by the celebrated YOKES FAMILY, Master C. Lauri, Little Wieland, Mr. F. Barsby, Mr. Byrnes, and Mr. J. G. Taylor; Miss Bessie Samson, Miss Gertrude Wynne, Miss Amy Fanchette, Miss Maud Howard, Mdlle. Julie. Premières danseuses, Mdlle. Zoëll and Mdlle. Zanfretta. Double harequinade—Clowns, Mr. H. Payne and Master C. Lauri. Produced under the direction of Mr. F. B. Chatterton. Box-Office open Daily, from Ten to Five.—THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1880.

Christmas Day, as a Festival, in this country at least, is passing through a stage of transition. It is becoming less social, and more ecclesiastical in its characteristics. Family gatherings, in a large number of circles, have given way to Church ceremonials. Against the latter we say nothing. They are, perhaps, somewhat more appropriate as a tribute to the spirit of the Season and to the great fact which they are supposed to commemorate than are the over-abundant and, in some instances, indigestible viands, the rollicking fun, the juvenile romps, and the occasional excesses which, over a still wider area of society, have been wont to be considered the jovial crown of the year. But we protest against the rapidly advancing change, so far as it tends to exclude those elements of enjoyment into which children have entered, and with which they have passionately sympathised. How many thousands of our Colonial population look back with tender and almost tearful regret upon the Christmas Days they spent at their old "homes" long years ago, and, cherishing that remembrance, revivify the ties which bind them to their Mother Country! How many thousands in all parts of the world, looking back with fondness upon that annual Festival of their earlier days, become conscious, for the time being at least, of some access of desire to live worthily of the domestic advantages which were once their own, and which long intercourse with the world has disposed them to undervalue! Nothing should be little in our eyes which serves to nourish, to enliven, and to refine family life. It is one of the best guardians of individual and manly independence, and it may be questioned whether any change tending to weaken its influence, even though it be to substitute for it a temporary influence of another kind, is one upon which society is to be congratulated.

The Christmas Festival used to be held twelve days later than it is now. Further on it was commonly associated with atmospheric rigour, with frost and snow, and hence to most persons in the outermost verge of middle life, although there may not have been any considerable change in the climate of the British Isles, the winters of their childhood seem to have been more severe than in later days. It may be that close cultivation of the soil has, to some extent, altered the conditions upon which the character of the weather depends. But it may be, also, that long periods of frost made an impression upon the youthful memory, which successive seasons of milder weather have tended rather to bring out into more prominent relief than to tone down or obliterate. Last year was spoken of as an "old-fashioned winter." This year has been foretold as likely to outdo the past in that respect. We do not know. Meteorological science is yet in a very imperfect state. The same series of atmospheric phenomena which last year ushered in a hard winter has been followed by precisely opposite effects—by an unusual prevalence of high temperature for the season. What has been is one thing—what will be is quite another. We will not speculate upon conclusions which, before another day has revolved, may be proved to have been baseless. But, whatever the aerial conditions of the Season may be, there will be, doubtless, more than sufficient ground for the free-handed activity of that "goodwill to men" which Christmastide inculcates. The poor, we may assure ourselves, will not be forgotten. One day, perhaps only one day, in the year they come to the front. Their very appearance there stimulates to liberality. Their participation in the ordinary enjoyments of humanity, exceptional as it must be, will, we trust, be ensured by the lively compassion of those whom Providence has more amply favoured.

The Christmas of 1880 is spoken of by publicists as an abnormally gloomy season. But we must not judge of all the world by our comparatively narrow experience. Politically speaking, our National affairs are not worse now than they were twelve months ago—not, perhaps, nearly so bad. Much of that gloom is due to the medium through which we look at it. There is no right-minded man who can contemplate so much of reality as there is in it without regret or without anxiety—none, we hope, who will refuse to lend a helping hand towards clearing away embarrassments on the other side of St. George's Channel, which unavoidably occasion many wrongs and much suffering. But we need not exaggerate them. We need not, from party or even patriotic motives, imagine them to be greater than they really are. There is no reason to believe that they will dissolve the fabric of society. There is good reason for expecting that they will soon come to an end. We can do ourselves no good, we can do the Irish people no good, by giving way to panic. We have a duty to perform towards them, and they towards themselves and one another, which, if it asks for some self-restraint and courage in the performance of it, promises also a sufficient reward. They are to be pitied who have lost all faith in the efficacy of "goodwill" in the management of human nature. They have therewith lost the master-key to the lock of social and political difficulties. But then it must be hearty goodwill—a goodwill that shrinks not from the labour or the responsibility of making itself fully acquainted with the case to which it applies; of setting aside merely boisterous clamour on the one hand and the outcries of selfish timidity or cupidity on the other; of accepting such practical remedies as are suggested by the nature of the malady to be treated; of proceeding, whether by the repression of what is bad or by the encouragement of what is in itself beneficial, to award to all classes of people that which just feeling, as well as wise forethought, recommends as their due. A firm resolution to interpret the unfaltering mandates of goodwill to men, if it do not at once deliver Civil Rulers from pressing but passing emergencies, qualifies them to minister to the permanent wants of a nation, and, in the end, to evoke national virtue. In our confidence that her Majesty's Ministers will thus meet and override the difficulties which beset them, we deem it not unbefitting to wish for our readers "a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

THE VOLUNTEERS.

A special general meeting of the National Rifle Association will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 19, at the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall-yard.

The annual distribution of prizes to the 5th Essex (Plaistow) Rifles took place in the drill-hall of the corps, Vicarage-lane, West Ham, on the 15th inst. The best shot in the battalion was Bugle-Major Smith, and the Ladies' and Regimental Challenge Cups were won by Private Derbyshire and Private Lambert.

There were last Saturday three distributions of prizes to Metropolitan Volunteers—those of the 3rd City of London, the 7th Surrey, and the 2nd (late 9th) Kent Artillery.

The ceremony of the City corps was held, as usual, in the Guildhall, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, who presented the prizes. Lieut.-Colonel Laurie, the Commandant, gave a gratifying account of the state of the regiment, which has now a strength of 1063 members, against 966 on the roll at the close of last year.

The prizes of the 7th Surrey Rifles were presented at the Cannon-street Hotel, by Colonel Cochrane, of the 1st Lanark Militia, late Adjutant General of the Colonial forces at the Cape. Lieut.-Colonel Porter, the Commanding Officer of the regiment, in the course his remarks, alluded to the changes in the constitution of the force during the past year, by which another corps the (26th Surrey) had become amalgamated with them, and whom they heartily welcomed. The regiment now numbers 860 of all ranks, and is in a most satisfactory state, as the brigade drill and inspection have both been attended by a large per-centage over the requisite strength. For the first time this year, they have sent a detachment to Aldershott, and the establishment of an ambulance class has been an unqualified success. The chief winners were Sergeant Hart and Captain Wheaton.

Colonel Waller, R.A., commanding the Auxiliary Artillery of the Home and Woolwich Districts, presented the prizes of the Kentish Artillerymen at Plumstead, in the presence of a large company. Lieut.-Colonel Hughes presided and, amongst other matters connected with the regiment, stated that they had won three prizes for shell practice at Shoeburyness.

The annual winter route march of the Bloomsbury (19th Middlesex) was held last Saturday, a strong detachment of the regiment, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Smith Richards, parading for the purpose in the afternoon at the Bow Station of the North London Railway. Head-quarters were established at Romford at the White Hart Hotel, and, guards having been mounted and sentries posted, the men were billeted for the night in the town. On Sunday there was a special parade for Divine service, and on Monday morning the detachment returned to London.

The annual distribution of prizes to the members of the 18th (late 36th) Middlesex took place on Monday evening at the St. James's Hall, in the presence of a large company of ladies and gentlemen. The report of the shooting committee showed that during the past year the shooting of the regiment had been satisfactory, while members of the corps had distinguished themselves in athletics and at the military tournament at the Agricultural Hall. Major Barrow, in the absence of Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon Ives, stated that the regiment is in a very efficient state. It now numbers 1000 men, the strength last year being about 937. The annual inspection had passed off very well indeed. The prizes were then distributed by Lady Seymour, wife of General Sir Frederick Seymour; and in a few words addressed to the corps by the gallant officer himself he expressed the pleasure he felt at being present, and congratulated the regiment on the creditable condition of its numbers.

The Duke of Cambridge has issued a Special General Order cautioning members of Volunteer Corps against making political speeches of a controversial nature.

Lady Leigh, who was accompanied by the Lord Lieutenant of the county, opened two new wards added to the Warnford Hospital, Leamington, last week.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

The usually well-informed dramatic critic of a contemporary has made a series of strange mistakes touching the new forthcoming play by Mr. Alfred Tennyson at the Lyceum. I find it stated that the scene of the drama is *not* laid in Asia Minor; that the heroine (Miss Ellen Terry) is the loving, faithful wife of the Governor of Massilia (the ancient Marseilles); that "she inspires an uncontrollable passion in the breast of a Roman general, who causes her husband to be murdered, and then, like King Richard, makes love to the widowed lady;" that she avenges her husband's death by stabbing bridegroom Number Two "with a dagger that she has concealed in her tunic at the altar, in the presence of the Flamen Dialis and the witnesses;" and, finally, I read that the play, which is in two acts and in blank verse, "will occupy less than an hour and a half in representation, and will occupy in the Lyceum playbill the place of an afterpiece, following the 'Corsican Brothers.'"

As a matter of fact, I believe that I am justified in stating that the scene of this tragic drama *is* laid in Asia Minor—in a city of Galatia, of which the husband of the heroine is Tetrarch. The play is founded on a story told in Plutarch's "Morals." The gentleman who falls in love with the Tetrarch's wife is not a Roman general, but a Galatian. He does not cause the husband to be murdered, but finds out "another way," as Mrs. Glasse would put it, of dispatching him, by stabbing the Tetrarch himself. Neither is the murderer stabbed at the altar. He is poisoned in a libation of mead offered to Diana; and then the avenging bride poisons herself. You may read in the story in Plutarch how the poisoned assassin runs out of the temple and enters his chariot, in the hope that the jogging and jolting of the vehicle (Mr. Thrupp, the learned historian of Coaches, may find in this conclusive evidence that the Galatian chariots had no springs) may allay the severity of his qualms; but the jogging and jolting do him no good; he is placed on a litter and taken home; the *rigor mortis* sets in; and on the same night he dies. The Avenging Bride "continued all that night; when, learning that he (the slayer of her husband) had ended his life, she comfortably and cheerfully expired."

Mem.: "The Cup" is the title of Mr. Tennyson's play; and as to the length of time which it may occupy in representation, I think that to the discussion of such a contingency might be found applicable the anecdote of the impecunious gentleman who was asked by a friend (Joseph Miller, Esq., I believe) where he intended to dine that afternoon. "I'll tell you to-morrow," replied the impecunious gentleman. On the morning after the first (I hope triumphantly successful) performance of Mr. Tennyson's "Cup," Mr. Henry Irving will be able to ascertain with precision how long it takes to play.

The folklore of political and social slang sayings is surely not ungermane to the purpose of the "Echoes;" and the "halfpennyworths of bread" accompanying the "intolerable deal of sack" may, I hope, be interesting to students of the minutiæ of civilisation after I am gone. Last week I incidentally asked whether the late Lord Palmerston was the author of the "mildly educational joke" about "the Three R's." I asked, because I have a distinct remembrance of the patriotic Premier jocularly making use of the locution in a speech on education delivered at some provincial meeting. But more than one correspondent tell me that the original advocate of "'Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rithmetic" (*sic*) was the well-known Alderman and banker, Sir William Curtis. Another correspondent also attributes to this worthy City magnate of the past the saying of "the Three C's"—"Country, King, and Curtis;" but this may have been fathered upon him by some wicked wag. If he chose, on the other hand, to spell his name with a K, what was to impede him? Cicero has been called, by many scholars, "Kikero." Two hundred years ago the common English people used to call Louise de la Querouaille, Duchess of Portsmouth, "Madam Curwell;" and the name of the great sherry importer, Pedro Ximenes, was corrupted into "Petersameen."

Perhaps Mr. Richard Edgcumbe, or some other apt Byronic scholar, will be able to answer a question addressed to me by "H. F.," touching a letter written to Mr. Murray by Byron, dated Bologna, Aug. 23, 1819, inclosing a communication to the Editor of the *British Press*, àpropos of a sarcastic allusion in that periodical to "Don Juan." My correspondent believes that Moore states in his "Life," &c., that the letter was printed for Murray, but never published by him; and "H. F." is anxious to know whether the Poet's reply (one of the most masterly pieces of polished sarcasm in the English language) was ever published in a separate form; and, if so, where a copy of it can be obtained.

And I have now a Byronic question to ask on my own account. The query may seem a very *naïve* one, and may be met with the taunting reply (on an anonymous post-card), "Everybody knows that," &c.; but I am too poor to collect books in every department of literature; I have no time to go (oftener than once in three months) to the Reading-Room of the British Museum; and my stores of "Byroniana" are very meagre.

I was reading the other day, in the French *Illustration* for Aug. 14, an obituary notice of that consummate dandy, accomplished artist, and amiable and generous gentleman, Count Alfred d'Orsay. In this notice it is stated that in the National French Library in the Rue de Richelieu, Paris, there is preserved an autograph letter written by Byron to d'Orsay (then a very young man) congratulating the handsome Count on the figure which he was making in London Society, and obscurely alluding to some memoirs, *à la* Grammont, on the English world of fashion, which D'Orsay had written or was about to write.

The peroration of the letter is characteristic:—

> Je suis malheureux pour vous, si bien initié à la vie à votre age, en songeant à ce qu'il en peut advenir quand l'illusion sera dissipée. N'importe: en avant! Vivez tant que vous pourrez jouir entièrement des nombreux avantages de jeunesse, de talent et de figure que vous possédez: Tel est le vœu d'un Anglais (je suppose); car ma mère était Ecossaise; mon nom et ma familles ont Normands. Pour moi je ne suis d'aucun pays; et quant à mes 'ouvrages' qu'il vous plait de mentionner, laissez les aller au diable d'où ils viennent, si j'en crois beaucoup de gens.

This epistle is signed "Noel Byron." Is there any English translation of it—in Moore or in the book which (I think) Lady Blessington wrote about Byron after his death? And how did the letter find its way into the French Bibliothèque Nationale?

"Misologios" takes warrantable exception to the spelling of some of the words in my quotation from the Romaic war song, "*Theleis Kharin*," &c., but if he would, in his scholarly mind, take a brief conspectus of the Erasmian, the Gardinerian, and the modern Romaic pronunciation of Greek, he would appreciate the difficulty of hastily transcribing Hellenic into Anglo-Roman characters. It is singular that a personage not less illustrious than Francis of Verulam experienced an analogous difficulty, although one in a converse direction to mine, two hundred and fifty years ago. In the collection of Bacon's letters in the Lambeth Library there is the following passage written in Greek characters, not transcribing Greek into English, but English into Greek.

> Oph my ophens phar be it phrom me to say dat veniam corvis vexat sensura columbas. But I will say that I ave good warrant phor. They were not the greatest ophenders in Israel upon veum the wall phell.

Please to note the letters which I have italicised. They are differently spelt in the original.

Herein Bacon has adopted the Erasmian pronunciation. Had he pronounced it after the manner of the Greeks of Byzantium he would have written *That beniam corbis*, instead of *dat veniam corvis*. As there is no v in the Greek alphabet he used a *nu*, as there is no y susceptible of being pronounced as our y he used a *gamma*, and there being no w he used an *omega*, with an *epsilon* added in the last "ocum" for whom. Had Bacon chosen to use the Byzantine pronunciation favoured by Bishop Gardiner, "whom" might have been intelligibly spelt "oum," "warrant" "ouarant," "wall" "ouall," and "my;" or, as he puts it, "mg," "maï."

Mr. "Thycke Hedde, M.P.," with a numerous following of sympathising ignoramuses (in the opinion of Mr. *Punch*), met on Wednesday in last week at the house of "Lord Constable," for the purpose of doing honour to the departing diplomatic representative at the Court of St. James's of a young and ingenious nation who, with much amenity, have been branded as "slippery thieves." In other words, there assembled on the afternoon in question (how it poured!) at Lord Rosebery's mansion in Piccadilly, a strong contingent from the Greek Committee, of which Mr. Arthur Arnold, M.P., is President, comprising many members of Parliament, distinguished University professors, journalists of standing, and substantial members of the Greek community in London. The object of the meeting, as stated in a brief but most effective speech by Lord Rosebery, was the presentation of an address to M. Gennadius, so long Chargé d'Affaires in London for the Hellenic kingdom, who is about to return to Athens, congratulating him on the admirable manner in which he had accomplished his diplomatic mission, and on the golden opinions which he had won from all classes in English society during his lengthened sojourn among us.

M. Gennadius made, in reply, a long, earnest, and eloquent speech in wonderfully fluent and accurate English. My own ears tingled a little when I heard M. Gennadius attack the terrible word "pusillanimity;" but instantaneously I breathed a sigh of relief when I found that he had successfully cleared that fence. Can you always say "pusillanimity" right off the reel? I cannot: no, not once in twenty times. I usually say "pusillamity." Yet most people can say "pusillanimous."

There died lately in Paris, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, a celebrated French savant, M. Michel Chasles, whom a Paris newspaper declares to have been the greatest geometrician in Europe. The same journal makes the curious assertion that "La Société Royale de Londres" simply adopted and promulgated the geometric system of M. Michel Chasles, which at once superseded the methods of Euclid and Pascal. This is strange. I know nothing whatever about the text-books of geometry in use in modern English schools; but I read the other day in an English educational journal the following:—

> To foreigners it may seem strange that Geometry should be taught to English school children by means of a treatise not designed for school purposes, and written more than two thousand years ago. . . . It is the fact that we stand alone among European nations in using Euclid's Elements as our school text-book of Geometry.

From this it would seem to follow that M. Chasles' method, although "adopted and propagated" by our Royal Society, has not yet found universal acceptance in the English world scholastic.

M. Michel Chasles (he was a cousin of the well-known scholar and critic, M. Philarète Chasles) was the victim some years ago of a very heartless swindle, which not only seriously injured him in a pecuniary sense, but for some short time threatened to cast a slur on a hitherto spotless reputation. In his passionate pursuit of science M. Chasles became imbued with the persuasion that there must be extant and not yet brought to light a mass of autograph manuscripts of famous mathematicians. A crafty knave with a turn for forgery got wind of this, and speedily offered to the simple-minded *savant* a number of letters on mouldy and worm-eaten paper, and in faded ink, purporting to be in the handwriting of Blaise Pascal, and Sir Isaac Newton. The unsuspecting geometrician eagerly swallowed the bait, and for months and even for years, he continued to accumulate "bogus" autograph letters from Pascal, Newton, Galileo, Tycho Brahe, Descartes, Leibnitz, Torricelli, and so forth. At last the fraud was discovered, and the cunning knave was convicted and sent to gaol. But the worst of the matter was that the enemies of M. Chasles insinuated that he had himself been cognisant of the rogue's malpractices, and had indicated to him printed passages from scientific authors to be reproduced in manuscript. The cruel charge was swiftly and completely disproved; but, for a time, it was a sore thorn in the side of poor M. Michel Chasles. To a friend who gently twitted him with his credulity he made this nobly philosophic reply:—"I have been duped many times in the course of a long life; but I would rather be duped again and again than live in perpetual suspicion of mankind."

The gentleman who wrote me from Port Adelaide to ask the address of an artist's colourman in Paris where he could order a box completely fitted up with materials for etching will be able, I am glad to inform him, to obtain all that he requires in the way of etching-tools in London. He has only to send, through his firm, an order to Messrs. Roberson, of Long Acre, who, I find, supply all kinds of etching or copper-plate printing materials, from "bordering wax" to "emery cloth," and from "etching ground" to "silk dabbers," and who fit up boxes of etching gear complete, including printing presses for taking proofs.

General and genuine sorrow will be felt in all scientific and literary circles—to say nothing of troops of personal friends—at the death of poor Frank Buckland, who, after long months of suffering, passed away on Sunday last, at his residence in Albany-street, Regent's Park. He was only in his fifty-fifth year. His well-deserved appointment, some years since, as one of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Salmon Fisheries, not only afforded him the opportunity of employing his vast acquirements in pisciculture for the practical benefit of the public at large, but also, in the intervals of his official duties, gave him some comfortable leisure wherein to pursue kindred studies in Natural History, to pen delightful essays on the science in which he was absorbed, and to look after the well-being of his beloved Fish Museum at South Kensington. What with his recurring pilgrimages to all parts of the kingdom in the interests of the Salmon Fisheries, his honorary curatorship of his own museum, and his constant contributions to *Land and Water*, Frank Buckland was one of the busiest men of his time.

He was a skilled anatomist of the true John Hunter and John Bell pattern—patient, laborious, and acute. His house in Albany-street was at once a laboratory, a dissecting-room, and a museum of zoology, alive and dead. We used to say of him, laughingly, that if a visitor knocked at his door it would be opened by a crocodile, while a seal came out into the area and a kangaroo looked out of the first-floor window. A friend told me once that he had seen Frank Buckland on the previous afternoon rowing on the Thames at Twickenham. There was somebody with him, he said. Who was it? A lady? "No," replied my friend; "it was a young bear."

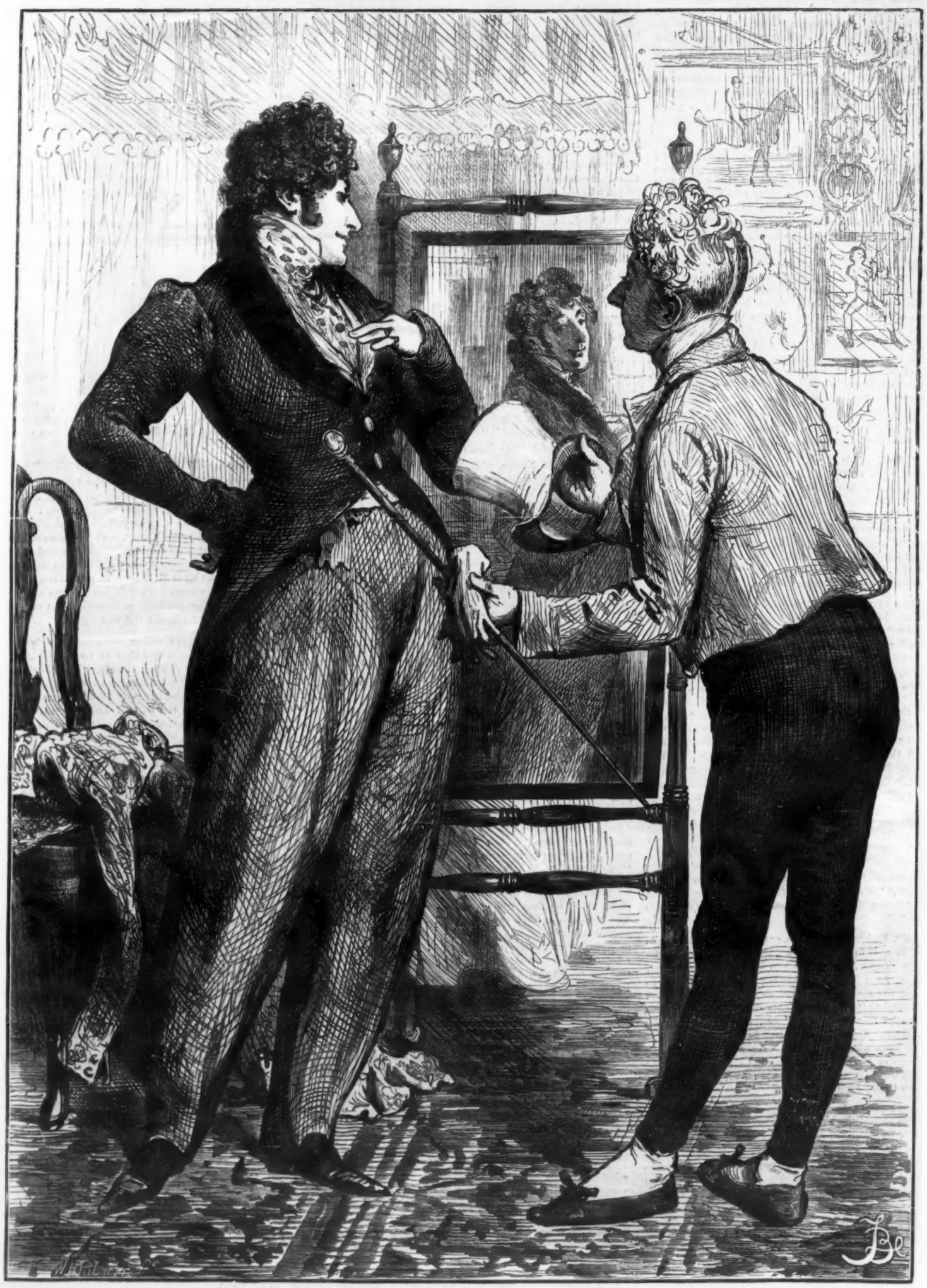
Busy as he always and over-worked as he frequently was, Frank Buckland could find time to be a most delightful and genial companion. Among the many branches of knowledge which he had acquired was the art of making people love him. When I first knew him, nearly twenty years ago, he was a dashing surgeon in the Second Life Guards, and, young as he was, had been house surgeon at St. George's Hospital. He was full of life and high spirits then; and we used to go to Cremorne and have "high old times," in the days when it was not thought desperately wicked to make a noise now and again. But Frank Buckland was to me much more than a genial soul and the best of all good company. My delight was to get him quite alone, say in a smoking-carriage between London and Brighton, and throwing in an occasional "Dear me!" and "Is that so?" listen his Wonderful Talk about birds, beasts, and fishes. He may have wearied some people by his enthusiastic and long-sustained monologues. To me he was simply so much *viva voce* Technical Education. He was a very brilliant, industrious, useful, kind, and good man; and I grieve for him with all my heart.

Here is an entry from the *Times* of Tuesday, which brings us in strange communion with the past:—

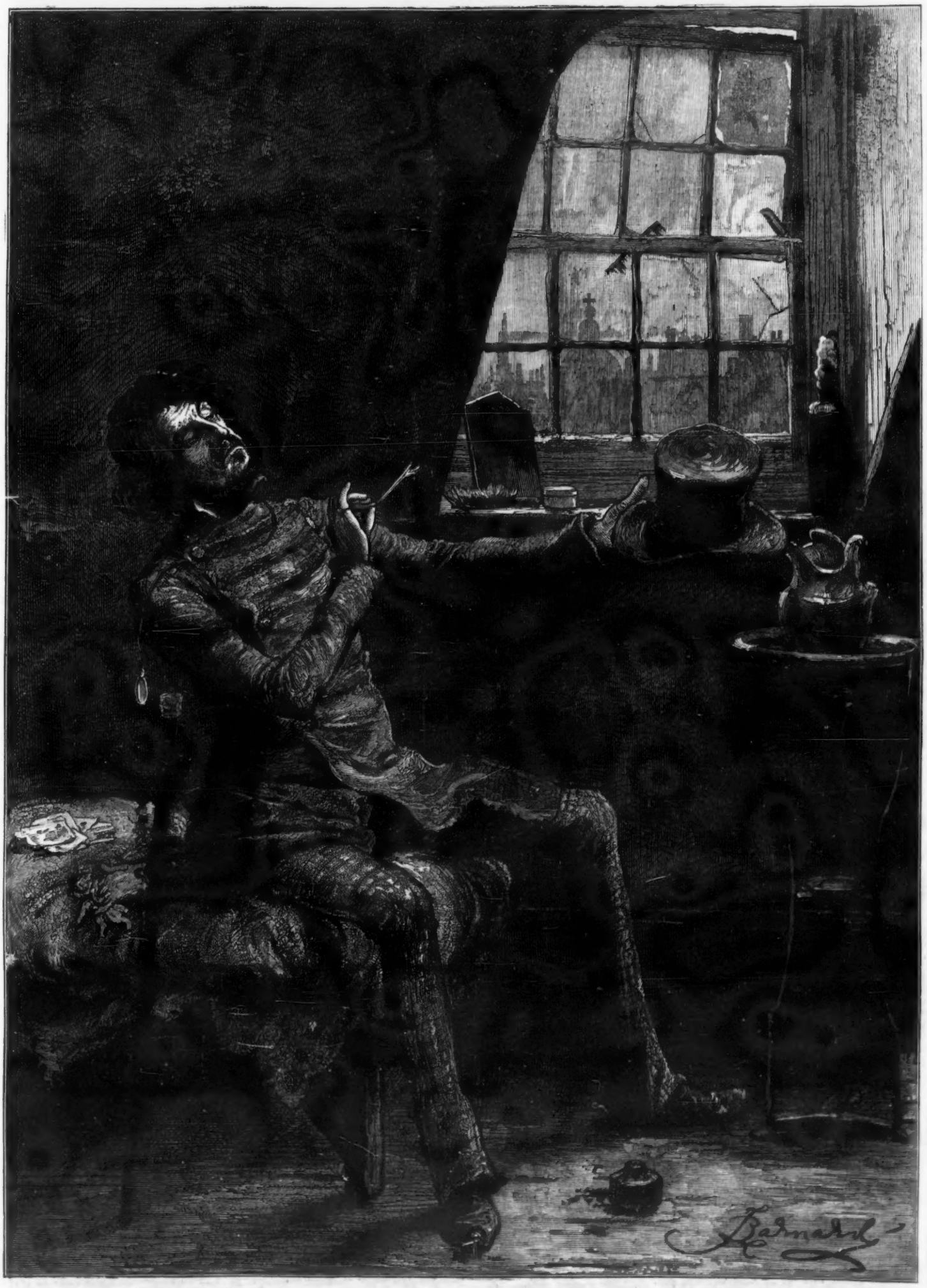
> On the 16th Dec., in Paris, aged 91, Mademoiselle Adelaïde de Montgolfier, last surviving daughter of Etienne de Montgolfier, the inventor of the balloon, dearly loved and mourned by the children of her adoption.

It is just short three years of a century that the first "fire-balloon" of the Brothers Etienne and Joseph de Montgolfier made its ascent from the market-place of Annonay, near Lyons. The "Montgolfier" was constructed of immense folds of linen, buttoned together, fixed to a frame a hundred and ten feet in circumference. Is there any truth, I wonder, in the pretty story that the invention of the fire-balloon arose from a circumstance connected with the christening of one of the children of the Brothers Montgolfier—I know not of which? The tale goes that an evening fête was to be given in honour of Baby's christening, and that among the amusements provided for the guests were a number of balloons of coloured paper, in which candles were to be placed for illumination. The balloons were constructed in the factory of the Brothers, who were paper-makers, and the paper bags, when completed, were laid flat on the grass, on a lawn outside the house, to dry. It was an extremely hot summer afternoon; and the Brothers Montgolfier, sitting in the cool shade on the terrace of their house and watching the balloons on the grass, beheld, with pleased astonishment, the flattened paper-bags gradually assume, one after another, a spheroidal form, and float away of their own motion into the empyrean. It was the rarefaction of the air which had caused the phenomenon. Thereupon the Brothers Montgolfier, who had already tried experiments with balloons of thin paper inflated with hydrogen gas, but had found the paper too porous, conceived the idea that a mighty ascending and sustaining force might be given to a linen bag, filled, by means of a furnace beneath, with hot air. Q. E. D. in 1783, at Annonay.

G. A. S.



TWO PHASES OF LIFE: "IN FULL BLOOM." DRAWN BY F. BARNARD.—SEE PAGE 622.



TWO PHASES OF LIFE: "GONE TO SEED." DRAWN BY F. BARNARD.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Tuesday, Dec. 21.

The shopkeepers are in a ferment of preparation for Christmas and the New Year. It is the season of presents. By the time that my letter will have appeared in print the fêtes will have begun in earnest. In Paris, as there are very few Parisians by birth, the festival of Noël does not present any peculiar characteristics. Each one celebrates it after his own fashion; in the Faubourg Saint-Germain as in the year 1600, in the Latin quarter as usual, in the faubourgs as best the people can. But all classes are unanimous on one point—drinking, eating, and sitting up late. Here Christmas is a popular fête and a family fête, especially for the children. The little ones on Christmas Eve put their slippers in the fireplace and go to sleep, dreaming and wondering whether the "Petit Noël" will bring them any thing or not. Unless they have been very naughty, "Petit Noël," in the person of their loving mamma, will come with stealthy tread and deposit in the shoe a gorgeous *polichinelle* or a regiment of metallic infantry. Then, in the morning, what shouts of joy and peals of silvery laughter! "Petit Noël" has not forgotten them. For the French mothers Christmas is a favourite festival; to their hearts the Saviour of mankind speaks, less for the moment than the child Jesus; they feel for the Divine infant whose image they see in the churches, lying in his humble crèche, surrounded by the shepherds and wise men of the East—a sentiment that resembles maternal love, and which is reflected in their own children. This family festival is very touching and charming.

On Christmas Eve there is a midnight mass in all the Paris churches; the singers of the Opera are engaged, and the people flock in thousands to listen to Adolphe Adam's splendid Christmas anthem, and to hear the joyful cry, "Noël! Noël!" echoing so strangely down the aisles. Then, after the midnight mass, follows the *réveillon*. For several days beforehand the pork-butchers, or *charcutiers*, have been laying in provision of black-puddings, sausages, pettitoes, tripes: for in the pig, as the genial poet Monselet sings in a famous sonnet,

> Car tout est bon en toi: chair, graisse, muscle, tripe!
> On t' aime galantine, on t' adore boudin.

The poulterers and roasters have ready fat capons from Mans, truffled turkeys, pheasants, and hares, all browning on the spits. The air is heavy with the odour of good cheer, and throughout the night in every café, in every wine-shop, in every house from cellar to attic, there will be sounds of feasting and revelry.

On the Boulevards the noise of the hammer is mingled with the cry of the *camelotier* vaunting his wares. The booths for the New-Year's fair are springing up and lining the great arteries of the city. What will be the new toy, the new puzzle? The *question de Dulcigno?* Meanwhile hundreds of workmen have been puzzling their heads for months past to invent some novelty that will be at once striking, ingenious, and capable of being sold with a profit for the modest sum of one sou. On the proceeds of the "Foire aux Etrennes" depend the fortunes of numberless humble families who dwell in the quarters of the Temple of St. Merri and of St. Martin. In these parts of the town the activity has been intense for the past six weeks. The air there has been redolent of the perfumes of newly sawn pine-wood and freshly varnished tin, that perfume so dear to childhood. On every floor of the old houses are signs of the special industry of the quarter. One man makes nothing but tin trumpets, another pop-guns, another wooden swords, another the traditional Punch dolls, another jumping rabbits, while another has a speciality of automatic toys. In the court-yards are railway vans and carts of all kinds carrying away cargoes of innocent joy to different parts of France and of the world—dolls dressed in satin for the children of the rich, *pantins* at one sou for the little peasants. The manufacture of toys holds a very important position in the industries of Paris, and some of the large makers employ two or three hundred work men and women. Then there are also the small men who work at home; these *petits fabricants* affect especially the heights of Belleville and Menilmontant. Now, can you guess who is one of the leading toy-makers of Paris? Henry Murger's Schaunard! Yes; Schaunard, of the *Vie de Bohême*, who is now a *bourgeois* of Paris and a *notable commerçant*. In the Rue des Archives may be seen the sign *Maison Schanne fondée en* 1817, *animaux, laine et poils, bergeries et écuries fines*. That is Schanne, the musician; Schanne, the companion of Henry Murger and Champfleury in their adventures—in a word, the original of Schaunard of the *Vie de Bohême*. Shanne is a real artist, and some of the animals that figure in his "sheepfolds and superior stables" are modelled with a skill and observation that would have delighted Barye.

I say nothing of the dancing, the *bals masqués*, the Christmas *revues*—which replace the English pantomime, being pantomimes for grown folks—the *bonbons*, the artistic presents that are paraded in the shape of the *bons faiseurs*, the charitable institutions, for poor folk who cannot afford to pay for fun when they cannot earn enough to live, the Christmas-tree of the Alsace-Lorraine children at the Hippodrome, and a dozen other merrymakings that will escort the moribund year gaily to its grave. It suffices to say that in all their gaiety the Parisians never forget the poor. My readers, I am sure, are equally charitable, and with this confidence I wish them all a merry and a happy Christmas!

In the way of news there is not much to record. Personal and press polemics are cooling down, and Parliament has been busy voting laws in order to earn its Christmas vacation. The scientific world has to regret the loss of M. Michel Chasles, the celebrated mathematician, who died last week, at the age of eighty-eight. The daughter of the inventor of balloons, Mdlle. Adelaïde de Montgolfier, also died last week at the age of eighty-three. She was a musician and a woman of letters of considerable talent, and her salon used to be frequented by the first men of France. Amongst the habitués were Victor Hugo, Lamartine, Béranger, Thiers, and Charles Dickens during his visits to Paris. Mdlle. de Montgolfier possessed a very remarkable collection of autographs, including many letters of Lord Byron and Charles Dickens.

T. C.

SOLDIERS' CHURCH.

During the late campaigns in Afghanistan, the regiments of British troops, under the orders of good and careful commanding officers, seldom omitted to attend Divine worship, performed by the regimental chaplains, on Sunday mornings, as punctually as in the barracks of any Indian station. One of our military correspondents, Lieutenant R. T. Roberts, R.A., of the 8th Brigade of Royal Artillery, 1st battery, while at the Peiwar Kotul, in the Kuram Valley, made a Sketch of the scene at church-time, which appears on our front page Engraving. The congregation here consisted of two regiments of infantry, and the men of his battery of Royal Artillery. The red uniforms of the former, and blue of the latter, seated on rising banks of earth under the shade of tall pine-trees, had a rather good effect. The pulpit was a circular mound of earth raised at the foot of an opposite tree, and a drum served for the "lectern" or reading desk. A more devout and attentive congregation would hardly be found in any parish church of peaceful England.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

ITALY.

In the Senate on Saturday Signor Cairoli, the Premier, expressed his gratitude to Mr. Gladstone for the great energy he had displayed in maintaining the concert of Europe, and for the naval demonstration, which he said had attained its object. He, however, entertained no illusions with regard to the Eastern Question, and perceived the possibility of complications, while hoping that the European concert would be maintained. The Senate has passed the foreign affairs and education estimates.

The Chamber of Deputies on Sunday continued the discussion of the navy estimates. The entire debate turned upon the question of the dimensions of the new ironclads. On Monday the Chamber, after a prolonged debate, agreed to the construction of two men of war of 10,000 tons displacement, at a cost of 15,000,000 lire, thus approving the views of Admiral Acton, the Minister of Marine.

HOLLAND.

The Dutch mean to have an Arctic expedition next year. Yesterday week the Second Chamber of the Legislature granted a sum of money towards the equipment of the William Barentz for a voyage to the North next year.

GERMANY.

On Monday evening a more than usually brilliant assemblage, headed by the Emperor, Empress, and Crown Prince, filled the Opera House to hear Miss Minnie Hauk as Carmen, a rôle which that distinguished singer has come here at the special desire of her Majesty to perform twice.

From the *Standard* correspondent at Berlin we learn that the civil marriage of Prince William of Prussia and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein will be solemnised in Bellevue Palace in the Thiergarten Park, near Berlin, on Feb. 26, at eleven o'clock.

The Imperial German Budget for the next financial year estimates the expenditure at 588,077,972 marks, which will be covered by the receipts, together with the further sum of 106,614,431 marks for the matriculatory contributions, the the latter being 24,943,481 marks in excess of last year.

A bill has been submitted to the Federal Council authorising the issue of a loan of 54,000,000 marks for the postal, telegraph, naval, and military services of the Empire.

The Prussian Diet has adjourned for the Christmas holidays until Jan. 8.

An anti-Jewish meeting, attended by about 2000 persons, was held yesterday week in the Reichshalle at Berlin. Resolutions were unanimously adopted in favour of repressive measures against the Jews. It was also resolved not to make any purchases from Jewish shops or firms.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Empress of Austria, it is announced, has definitively given up her hunting-box in Ireland.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* states that it has been officially announced that there is no truth in the report of the postponement of the marriage of the Crown Prince Rudolph and the Princess Stéphanie. The wedding will take place on Feb. 15.

The Lower House of the Austrian Parliament on the 16th inst. agreed to the proposed issue of Paper Rente to the amount of 14,500,000 fl. The treaty of commerce with Spain was also adopted. The Minister of Commerce subsequently introduced a bill to amend the laws relating to trade. The Lower Chamber at its last meeting before the Christmas vacation had a sitting of eighteen hours' duration. Beginning last Saturday at ten in the morning, the House sat through the whole of the night, and did not rise till four o'clock on Sunday morning. The proceedings were of an unusually stormy character. The German Liberal, or Constitutional, Party attacked the measures of the Government with great bitterness. There were several divisions, in all of which the Government came off victorious by considerable majorities.

RUSSIA.

There has been a disturbance at Moscow among the medical students at the University. Dissatisfied with the disregard of some demands they had made, they held a noisy meeting, disturbing one of the Professors in his lecture. The Governing Body thereupon sentenced six of their number to expulsion, and this caused some four hundred students to assemble in the courtyard and call out for the Rector, who escaped to the house of the Governor-General. The immediate result was the arrest of the whole body of riotous students. Many of them, however, have been released.

AMERICA.

Mainly with the object of promoting education among the blacks in the Southern States, the Senate has passed the bill for devoting the proceeds of the sales of public lands and the receipts for patents to the establishment of a fund for educational purposes in those States where such assistance might be most required.

The House of Representatives has passed the ordinary appropriation of 100,000 dols. for harbour fortifications. After an animated discussion, and despite the forebodings of several speakers respecting the defenceless condition of the country, the House rejected the amendment, granting 500,000 dols., which the Government demanded for the improvement of the seacoast defences. The Military Academy Appropriation Bill and the Consular Appropriation Bill have also been passed.

Both Houses of Congress adjourned on Wednesday for a fortnight.

The annual report of the Director of the Bureau of Statistics declares that the United States is now the largest exporter of breadstuffs and provisions in the world. It states, however, that the merchant marine of the country continues to decline, only twenty-three ships having been built last year. The internal and coasting marine has also declined. On the other hand, the railway transport has enormously increased, indicating the transfer of internal commerce from water communication to the railways.

The Governor of Idaho, in his message to the Legislature of that territory, states that polygamy is being rapidly introduced from Utah, and expresses the hope that adequate measures will be adopted to crush out the practice.

A paper-hanging factory at Buffalo was destroyed by fire on the 17th inst. The entire building was in flames within twenty minutes, when it fell in ruins, burying at least thirty persons; thirteen jumped from the upper stories, of whom three were killed and nine severely wounded.

CANADA.

By a majority of sixty-seven votes, the Dominion House of Commons has sustained the refusal of the Premier to lay upon the table a copy of the Pacific Railway contract entered into by the Dominion Ministers while in England.

The Manitoban Legislative Assembly was opened on the 16th inst. by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. J. E. Cauchon, who in his speech dwelt upon the prosperity of the province and the rapid progress made in developing its resources. On the 18th the House voted the Address in reply to his speech.

SOUTH AFRICA

A telegram from Capetown reports that there has been some fighting between the Basutos and the Colonial forces under Colonel Carrington, who had sent two columns on a patrolling expedition. The Colonel's division encountered 3000 Basutos, and was compelled to retire before them, with a loss of two killed and eight wounded.

Taking advantage of the Basuto rising, the Boers in the Transvaal have entered the field for the recovery of an independence which they forfeited by misconduct. A telegram received on Monday at the Colonial Office from Sir George Colley, the High Commissioner in the Eastern parts of South Africa, tells us that about 5000 Boers assembled at Heidelberg, and proceeded to establish a Republican Government. Mr. Kruger was selected as president, and Mr. Joubert was appointed commandant.

INDIA.

The health of the Marquis of Ripon is improving. Owing to the illness of the Viceroy and the absence from Calcutta of Sir John Strachey, who is about to leave for England, the Government of India is, the *Times* correspondent says, now virtually without a head. In the North-Western Provinces there has been a further rainfall, and there is a decided improvement in the crop prospects. Mr. Adam arrived at Bombay on Monday week, and left for Madras on Thursday. The Bhownagar Railway was opened on Monday by Sir James Ferguson, the Governor of Bombay.

AUSTRALIA.

Lord Augustus Loftus, the Governor of New South Wales, in opening the Parliament of that colony, on the 16th inst., announced the introduction of several bills, including measures for extending and improving Municipal Government and Local Self-Government, for the protection of life and property at sea, and for regulating the liquor traffic. He was able to congratulate the colony on the improved condition of the public revenue, remarking that better evidence could hardly be adduced of the sound condition and prosperity of the country. The Governor concluded his speech with a reference to the recent and forthcoming conferences on questions of deep concern to the whole Australian continent. "These questions," he said, "have already been under discussion, and some of them have advanced a stage towards satisfactory agreement."

The Channel Squadron arrived at Lisbon on Sunday.

The Prince of Montenegro has expressed his thanks to the Powers for the satisfactory settlement of the Dulcigno question.

Large orders for arms of the newest and best systems have been given by the Chinese Government to manufacturers in Germany.

A National Exhibition of the Products of the Industry and Art of the Kingdom of Bavaria is to be held at Nuremberg in 1882.

An association has been formed at Madrid with a view to establish life-boat stations at the most dangerous places on the coast of Spain. Several members of the Royal family have given the movement the aid of their patronage.

Cardinal Jacobini, in a circular to the Papal Nuncios and other representatives of the Holy See abroad, announcing his appointment as Pontifical Secretary of State, enunciates a policy of calmness and conciliation, and recommends them to display the greatest moderation, in order not to multiply existing difficulties.

TWO PHASES OF LIFE.

The satirical genius of a clever artist has in these companion drawings put before us the different situation and appearance of one and the same individual at different times. From certain peculiarities in the fashion of his tailoring, we should be inclined to think he lived and occasionally flourished about forty years ago. Indeed, he rather strikes us as an old acquaintance, whom we remember to have met with in one of the early novels of Charles Dickens, and whose fortunes in the world of mixed London society were liable to surprising changes. He was sometimes known by the name of Mr. Montague Tigg; his professions were various, but always promising and plausible; while his occupation, which he most steadily pursued, was that of persuading other people to trust him with their money. Whether or not this class of ingenious practitioners has become utterly extinct, we are by no means in a position to affirm; but there is some alteration in the cut of their coats and trousers, and in the shape of their cravats. The two periods of this gentleman's history selected by Mr. F. Barnard for a pair of *alter et idem* portraits may not have been separated by a greater interval than four or five years; though it is evident that the suit of clothes worn in the second instance, shabby as they now are, did not belong to the particular phase of sartorial fancy that looked so entirely *comme il faut* when he stood before the dressing-room mirror, attended by his valet, in "the light of other days." Male attire was formerly more subject to these violent revolutions of taste and custom than it seems to be in the present generation; and its condition was a more likely index to the state of the wearer's purse or his banker's account. There can be no doubt, however, that the interesting hero of these two chapters of pictorial biography was decidedly a "fast man;" and that he went very fast down hill, after having, by some devices not more creditable to his honesty than to the sagacity of his neighbours, risen to a temporary elevation which he was unable long to keep. The furniture and decorations of his chambers, with the portraits of racers, prize-fighters, and ballet-dancers, and those trophies of nocturnal prowess, the stolen door-knockers, arrayed on the wall, bear witness to the character of the man, and recall to memory some of those anecdotes of silly profligacy in a past age, which are but too authentic facts. There is small reason to condole or sympathise with such a person, when he is next seen in a squalid garret, reduced to the barest necessaries of life, but still endeavouring, by a ridiculous expedient, to preserve the glossy blackness of his napless hat with a touch of ink applied to the edge of its battered crown. This plight is some degrees lower than the "shabby genteel;" but it is quite as good as he deserves. He is not now, as we before saw him, "in full bloom;" but, very decidedly, "gone to seed," and what is called "seedy."

An appropriate motto has been suggested for Mr. Fawcett. "Post Hoc" writes thus to the *Times*:—"You have stated in your leading columns that Mr. Fawcett ought to have a motto for his admirable plan of giving the working classes in this country a chance of fortune—a motto which might be set over against the abortive *Ex luce lucellum* of another statesman. How would *Fors et fortuna* do for the Postmaster-General, thus coupling the London pronunciation of his name with the result of his policy?"

THE PLAYHOUSES.

"A New Trial," being an adaptation, by the skilled hand of Mr. Coghlan, of an Italian play, by Signor Giacometti, called "La Morte Civile," in which Salvini has taken Italy and the United States by storm for many years, was produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Saturday last, and achieved what may be termed a "first night success," due partly, I should say, to the very forcible acting of Mr. Coghlan himself in the part of the hero, and to the admirable manner in which he was supported by the excellent working company whom Mr. Edgar Bruce has now brought together; and partly to the curiosity excited by the revealing in a substantially novel manner of a very weird tragedy, which, however, it is questionable whether the audience, unless they have a morbid appetite for supping on horrors, would care to have told to them again. And, for a drama to become thoroughly popular, it must be witnessed repeatedly by the same people.

"A New Trial" is one of the ghastliest and grimmest plays that I have ever been privileged to witness. As in the case of "Annie Mie," it turns on a stabbing case, the imprisonment of the assassin, his return to civil life, and the tribulations of a mother and daughter, whose blood relation to one another is, for the purposes of the story, kept concealed until the catastrophe; but, unlike "Annie Mie," "A New Trial" is utterly devoid of any humorous dialogue or any picturesque incident—such as the "Kissing Bridge" and Zeeland song and dance episodes in the otherwise lugubrious Dutch piece;, it does not contain any love-making, and it does not end happily. Its prologue is indeed, a murder with the stiletto, and its epilogue suicide by means of prussic acid or strychnine. It has no heroine—the mother and daughter being characters wholly subordinate to the hero—and it is very clumsily constructed; a young gentleman, who should be the lover, and an old priest, who promises to be the villain of the play, vanishing from it altogether, before it is half over. Notwithstanding all these anomalies, "A New Trial," so far from being a desperately dull play, as "Annie Mie" was, is an exceedingly interesting one, for the time being; but it leaves a strongly unpleasant taste in the mouth, and can scarcely be reverted to with pleasure. Thus, the Bravo case was interesting; but the majority of people were glad when the gruesome business was over.

The plot of "A New Trial" may be compressed into the compass, say, of a death's head. Corrado, a Sicilian painter, marries, against the wishes of his family, the Signorina Rosalia. Her brother Luigi, who is most persistent in objecting to the match, quarrels with and insults Corrado, who stabs him, even to death. The assassin, on conviction, is sentenced to hard labour for life. After thirteen years' imprisonment he escapes from the convict-prison, changes clothes with a peasant, and tramps across the mountains to a small town, where he accidentally learns that his wife has taken refuge. She has been protected by a benevolent medical practitioner of ultra-Liberal and anti-clerical views called Palmieri, and resides in his house as the governess of his young daughter Annetta, who is in reality the daughter of the convict's wife Rosalia, but has been substituted for the Doctor's real daughter, who died in infancy, with the benevolent intent of concealing the fact that her father is an assassin, dragging his life-chain at the galleys. When, after a series of incidents too numerous to follow, the escaped convict wishes to renew his matrimonial relations, his wife indignantly refuses to have anything to do with him, and most mendaciously and unnaturally tells him that his daughter is dead, and that the young girl whom, with unerring paternal instinct, he has discovered to be really his, is the child of the benevolent Dr. Palmieri. The young girl, indeed, is afraid of the unbidden guest, Corrado—mainly, I should say, because he makes such strange faces and bellows so loudly; his wife incessantly urges him to go away—at one time, even, in an unwonted moment of placability, offering to accompany him if he will leave Annetta in peace; and Dr. Palmieri endeavours logically to convince him that his first duty to society, to his family and himself, is to take himself off to parts unknown. The unanimous consensus of opinion between the Doctor and his two female *protégées* that Corrado is one too many in the house, renders the situation of things in general disagreeably equivocal, and additional repulsiveness is infused into the "dead set" made against the unfortunate "lifer" by the avowal of the Doctor that he has long entertained a platonic attachment for Rosalia, and the cool confession of that lady that she would have married the Doctor long ago had she been free. Ultimately there comes over the darkened mind of Corrado the conviction that it is his living body that stands between his family and happy respectability, so he presents them with a dead body instead: swallowing a phialful of poison, and expiring with horrible writhing and mouthing on the stage. The repulsiveness of the story is aggravated to the intolerable degree, when the curtain falls, by the unavoidable inference that the widow of Corrado will, as soon as she conveniently can, enter into the bonds of matrimony with Dr. Palmieri.

I am not prepared to say that this darksome tragedy, or a great deal of it, is terribly realistic. It might have been, indeed, a story of real life told at a Coroner's inquest on the corpse of a suicide, and transferred, cut and dried, from the columns of a newspaper to the boards of a theatre. It is, at the same time, highly amusing to find one of the critics of the "Forcible Feeble" kind, an eminent professor of the "cry-baby" style in dramatic art, writing that it is "curious to find in one play so much that is false in nature and true in art." The exact contrary happens to be the case. The mirror is constantly, albeit in a rather clumsy manner, held up to nature; it is the art which is throughout weak, limping, and false. One can easily imagine what a dreadful pest, nuisance, and skeleton in the cupboard a father who had escaped from penal servitude would be in a "stuck up" family who were selfishly anxious to maintain a position of respectability; indeed, such an intrigue of equivoque and embarrassment might furnish the plot for a most amusing comedy of manners; but the importation of such an unadorned chapter of horrors as "A New Trial" on to the stage, without any underplot, and without even the complete evolution of the action suggested by the introduction of some of the characters, may be natural enough, but is assuredly in the most offensive degree inartistic. And as for the realism, repulsively superabundant as it is, it lacks thoroughness. Mr. Coghlan spares us not one contortion and not one gasp of a man dying of a deadly poison; but please to remember that he dies in the house, and in the presence of a medical man. Surely this very clever Dr. Palmieri must have heard of such a thing as a stomach-pump. The "Forcible Feebles," amid a squeal of much windy verbiage, assert that "those who cannot give themselves up to the contemplation of an exceptional social position idealised by art and finished by master-strokes of execution had better remain away, and leave the atmosphere created by such a study undisturbed." These are mere "Words, Idle Words." No "atmosphere" that I know of, beyond that of the slaughter-house, the druggist's shop, and the hulks is "created" by such a play as "A New Trial;" and the "exceptional social position" arising from a wife and daughter wanting to get rid of a convict husband and father, is in the Giacometti-Coghlan piece wholly unidealised by Art. Art would have given us a heroine attractive of at least some modicum of sympathy, and a catastrophe not quite so coarsely true to the nature of a *felo de se* as Corrado's removal of his body "out of the way."

The acting of Mr. Coghlan as Corrado was, in parts, very fine. Usually, he is not a great master of pathos; but in Corrado I liked him best in his melting moments. Too frequently he allowed himself to rant; and the Prince of Wales's is too small a theatre for ranting to be agreeable there. Mr. Flockton was simply superb as a suspicious, snuffy, censorious, but not hard-hearted Italian village priest. As I have said, he gave signs in an early portion of the drama of being its malificent spirit; but all at once he disappeared from the action of the piece and was seen no more. Was this art? A similar evanishment also took place in the case of his nephew, Don Fernando, inoffensively played by Mr. Bayley; but, as Don Fernando happened to be a young gentleman about whom nobody cared so much as one bajocco's worth of Neapolitan macaroni, the disappearance of the Don was not regretted; and, indeed, it was scarcely noticed. Mr. James Fernandez brought real art to bear on the interpretation of the part of the somewhat frigid philanthropist Dr. Palmieri; but he had not much to do, although he had much to say. Miss Amy Roselle, who only the other night was playing the certainly not amicable part of the Princesse de Bouillon in Adrienne Lecouvreur at the Court, was on Monday condemned to undertake a yet more thankless part at the Prince of Wales's. She did her very best to "artistically idealise" the wretchedly unsympathetic part of the unlovely wife of the bloodstained yet uxorious actress; but Miss Amy Roselle is so thoroughly a sympathetic actress, and is so full of lovable nature, that one felt very frequently inclined to wish that Signor Giacometti and his ghastly play had tumbled into the crater of Mount Ætna before ever Mr. Coghlan came across them.

I can only record (pending a more extended notice) the complete and splendid success at the Alhambra Theatre Royal on Monday of a grand spectacular opera in three acts, "Mefistofele II.," the music by Hervé, the libretto adapted to the English stage (and very humorously adapted, too) by Mr. Alfred Maltby. It is the "Petit Faust" expanded, *remanié*, and thoroughly "revised and settled" by the accomplished musical director of the Alhambra, M. G. Jacobi, who, in one of the grandest of the spectacular tableaux, the "Temptation of Faust," has introduced a portion of Mendelssohn's magnificent music to the "Walpurgis-nacht." "Mefistofele II." affords ample scope for the bright vocal and mimetic talents of Miss Constance Loseby and Miss St. Quinton. Miss Emily Petrelli and Madame Rosa Bell also appear with advantage in the cast; Mr. F. Leslie is a tuneful and gallant Faust, and Mr. Lionel Brough is irresistibly humorous as Valentine. Never did I behold such a wondrous variation upon Captain Bobadil as Mr. Brough gave us on Monday night. Beautiful scenery by Mr. W. Callcott—"Looking-glass Scene Callcott," of traditional Alhambra fame—and Mr. T. E. Ryan; a graceful and animated ballet, sumptuous dresses and appointments, a faultlessly trained band and well-drilled chorus, and first-rate stage management produce in "Mefistofele II." an *ensemble* which will make a dazzling addition to the long line of lyric and choregraphic glories of the Alhambra.

G. A. S.

MUSIC.

SATURDAY ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS.

The fourth and last of these concerts, directed by Mr. F. H. Cowen, took place at St. James's Hall last Saturday evening, when three novelties were brought forward, the most important of which was Mr. Cowen's new symphony (No. 3, in C minor), which was given for the first time. It is a long, elaborate, and ambitious work, in which the composer avowedly seeks to realise, in music, the impressions received during a tour in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. There is some characteristic writing in the symphony, with much ingenious command of orchestral effects; but, as a whole, it is over-elaborated, and prolonged to an excessive length, the tonal peculiarities of northern melodies being used with such reiteration as sometimes to amount almost to a travestie of national distinctiveness. The whole work, and especially the finale, requires revision and condensation. A cleverly-written overture, entitled "Titania," by H. C. Nixon, and a pleasing orchestral "Tone-Picture," by Mr. J. F. Barnett, illustrative of "The Ebbing Tide," were the other absolute novelties. A specialty was Bach's fine triple concerto for pianoforte, violin, and flute (with accompaniments of stringed instruments), very well rendered, with Madame Frickenhaus, Mr. V. Nicholson, and Mr. W. L. Barrett as the soloists.

Another specialty—and a favourable specimen of modern English music—was the scena, "Hero and Leander," by A. Goring Thomas, very effectively declaimed by Mrs. Osgood. This is an extremely well written piece, in which some varied emotions are illustrated by music of a highly dramatic character. It produced a genuine impression. Mr. Cowen's fanciful and imaginative series of short orchestral pieces, entitled "The Language of the Flowers," was repeated by general desire; and Mr. Lloyd's fine delivery of well-known vocal pieces, and the final performance (by the orchestra) of Beethoven's third overture to "Leonora," completed the programme.

The final Crystal Palace Saturday afternoon concert of the year took place last week, when a new concerto for the violin, composed by Herr Gernsheim, was performed, for the first time in England, by M. Emil Sauret. The work is dry and uninteresting in each of its three movements—least so, perhaps, in the final Rondo—and its chief, if not only, merit is in serving to display exceptional powers of execution by the solo player. These were evidenced by M. Sauret, and again in his performance of Vieuxtemps's "Ballade et Polonoise." Mr. Herbert Reeves's promised first appearance at the Crystal Palace was unfortunately prevented by illness, and he was replaced by Mr. Oswald, who rendered some familiar vocal pieces with much success. The remaining items of the programme call for no specific detail. The Saturday concerts are to be resumed on Feb. 5.

After the performance of last Saturday afternoon, the Popular Concerts are, as usual at this period, suspended for a time. The programme then included a string quartet, by the Bohemian composer Dvorak, which was finely rendered (for the first time here) by Madame Néruda, Mr. L. Ries, Mr. Zerbini, and Signor Piatti. Of the work itself we must speak after its repetition, which is promised at the first evening concert of the new year. M. Eugene D'Albert—the young pianist who recently made so successful an appearance at the Monday evening concerts—played Beethoven's solo sonata in E flat, op. 7, with great effect on Saturday, the other instrumental solo having been a sonata by Handel for violin (with pianoforte), charmingly rendered by Madame Néruda. These artists and Signor Piatti were associated in Mendelssohn's Trio in C minor. Madame Antoinette Sterling sang familiar vocal pieces with great effect, and Mr. Zerbini accompanied as usual. The Monday evening concerts will be resumed on Jan. 3; the afternoon performances on the following Saturday.

The Royal Academy of Music gave a Student's Orchestral Concert, at St. James's Hall, last week, when Mr. W. Shakspeare proved his fitness for the office of conductor, to which he has recently been appointed. The vocal performances, solo and choral, and the pianoforte playing of several students, were such as to give favourable proof of the efficient course of instruction and study pursued at the institution.

Yesterday (Friday) week, the Sacred Harmonic Society's forty-ninth Christmas performance of "The Messiah" took place—also at St. James's Hall, to which locality the society's concerts are now transferred from Exeter Hall—as already recorded. The solo music of "The Messiah" was generally well rendered by Mesdames L. Sherrington and M. Cummings, Mr. V. Rigby, and Mr. Bridson—the chorus-singing having been highly effective. Sir M. Costa conducted, and Mr. Willing presided at the organ, as usual. The next performance will take place on Jan. 21, when the programme will comprise Handel's coronation anthem, "The King shall rejoice," Cherubini's "Requiem," and Mendelssohn's "Athalie" music.

The Royal Amateur Orchestral Society gave the first concert of its ninth season at the Albert Hall, on Saturday evening, when the band (including the Duke of Edinburgh as one of the first violins) performed the overtures to "Le Pré aux Clercs," "Mignon," and "Le Domino Noir;" entr'actes by Massenet and Gounod, Bizet's orchestral suite, "L'Arlésienne," and Gounod's "Saltarello." Vocal pieces were contributed by Mesdames Zimeri and Dalton, and Signori Monari-Rocca and De Monaco. Mr. George Mount is still the zealous and energetic conductor of the performances. The concert was given in aid of the funds of the French Hospital and Dispensary, Lisle-street.

"The Messiah" was given at the Alexandra Palace last Saturday evening, with full orchestra and chorus, and Mesdames Sherrington and Enriquez, Mr. R. Hollins and Mr. Bridson, as the solo vocalists. The oratorio is to be performed by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society next Monday evening, Mr. Sims Reeves being announced to appear.

The Royal School of Mines Orchestral Society (of which Professor Huxley is president) gave a concert last Monday evening in the Lecture Theatre of the South Kensington Museum. The programme was of a sterling character.

The ballad concert announced by Mr. Sims Reeves for last Thursday evening at St. James's Hall occurred too late for notice until next week. The programme promised performances by the concert-giver, his son (Mr. Herbert Reeves), Madame Albani, and other eminent artists.

The temporary lull in music caused, as usual, by the Christmas vacation, will soon be broken. The advent of the new year will at once bring a resumption of the serial performances. Mr. John Boosey's London Ballad Concerts at St. James's Hall will be continued on New-Year's Day, when an afternoon performance will be given. On the evening of Jan. 3 (as already said) the Monday Popular Concerts will be resumed, the first of the afternoon performances associated therewith taking place on the following Saturday; when, in the evening, the performance of Berlioz's "Faust" music, directed by Mr. Charles Hallé, will be repeated at St. James's Hall. Other important concerts will soon follow, and music will speedily resume its wonted activity.

Herr Max Friedländer—who has sung with much success at various London concerts—has recently met with a highly favourable reception at Berlin, Frankfort, and other important German cities.

The "Professional Pocket-Book," edited by Sir Julius Benedict, and published by Messrs. Rudall, Carte, and Co., has just been issued for next year. It contains a large amount of general and official information, with a diary for daily and hourly engagements, and a list of the principal forthcoming musical performances. The book will be found of special value both for the amateur and the professional musician.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE ON EDUCATION IN INDIA.

A meeting of the National Indian Association was held in the hall of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, on the 16th inst., when Sir Richard Temple gave an address on the Effect of Western Education on the Natives of India. Sir Arthur Hobhouse presided, and there was a large attendance.

Sir Richard Temple explained that a system of State education had been extended throughout the length and breadth of India, there being no less than 66,000 schools and colleges, and nearly two million scholars. The direct education given to those young people was of a fourfold nature—intellectual, moral, scientific, and practical or technical. The intellectual education had been attended with considerable success; but, while the moral was in some degree systematic, a great deal of it was incidental. Under a civilised Government, like that of England in India, an immense amount of indirect education was afforded, the whole result of which had been refining, humanising, and elevating; but he was far from saying there were no drawbacks, because foreign rule, even of the best kind, must have a somewhat depressing effect on an alien race. Those drawbacks were inseparable from our position in India, and they made our obligations to the country all the greater. Formerly corruption and even worse faults were common amongst natives employed in the public service, but nowadays the high native officials brought up in the colleges were just as honourable and trustworthy as English gentlemen. A remarkable advance also had taken place in the general and political intelligence of the people. This had led the people to take an interest in the security of the British Empire, and had at the same time produced a fresh body of public opinion which it would be well not to lose sight of. He would gladly have believed that the old ideas and traditions connected with caste were being weakened, but he really could not see any signs of it. Somehow, caste and the associations which clung to it seemed to be more enduring than any other influences that existed in India. Of course the natives who came to England broke their caste, but he rather suspected that when they got back they conciliated their brethren in order to be once more admitted within the magic pale. As one who had spent some of the best years of his life in India, he could say that the natives were worthy of the highest esteem, and he was satisfied that if the efforts of the English people continued to be directed as they had hitherto been, British rule would be established more firmly than it could be by cannon and bayonet, and we should earn the lasting gratitude of the nationalities which had been committed to our care by an all-wise Providence for the good of the human race.

"CAUGHT

FROM THE PICTURE BY C. J. STANIL

AUGHT!"

J. STANILAND.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

The Extra Supplement.

THE MANOR HOUSE.

Our well-known Artist, Mr. S. Read, is always happy in delineating the picturesque aspects of fine old-fashioned country mansions. A partial view is here afforded of the central front and main entrance of a noble residence, seen from between the grand old cedars and other trees on the garden lawn. The interior seems brightly lit up for some festive entertainment, which may be a Christmas or New-Year's Eve party. A family of invited guests, who are doubtless of some rank, from the style of their equipage, have just arrived at the open doorway. The antique form of the carriage, which harmonises with the style of the building, would indicate that the artist's mind went back more than a hundred years to imagine this incident of rural grandeur. Everything is in perfect keeping with this view of the subject; the trees, the house, the equipage, with coachman and footman, and the signs of a stately hospitality within. It is one of those suggestive drawings from which any active mind can readily take the needful hints to imagine a whole chapter of personal history. This might be worthy of a place in some future collection of avowed "Romance of the Peerage and Baronetage," or "Tales of the Old English Gentry."

"CAUGHT!"

In this picture, by Mr. C. J. Staniland, there is no difficulty in comprehending the nature of the situation. It may be supposed to have taken place early in the eighteenth century, about the time of the first or second King George, to which belong some of our old comedies and romances of English social life. We have only to recollect certain incidents of these, and to imagine the characters of a haughty Squire, a passionate and sentimental young lady, the Squire's daughter, and a gallant young officer, Lieutenant in a Regiment of Horse, wearing his uniform in private life as they did in those days. Nothing will then be more likely and natural for us to believe than that the two young persons, in order to defeat the parental design of marrying her, will she nil she, to an odious rich Nabob or dissolute Peer, should have agreed upon a romantic elopement from the Squire's jealously guarded mansion. She has come out of the garden-gate, certainly not in her travelling-dress, but in obedience to her lover's signal or whistle, to speak a moment with him outside, before returning to her own apartment and properly attiring herself for the perilous journey. His servant and horses, ready to assist in the flight, are in waiting on the neighbouring hill. At this critical moment, the angry father, who has from his library window seen the rash maiden hurry across the lawn, emerges suddenly from the gate, and confronts the unlucky pair in a mood that is forcibly expressed by the knitted brows and sternly set lips, the attitude and gesture of his figure. In vain will she plead for his forgiveness, and try to soften his obdurate heart, with protestations of her filial reverence, or with assurances that she knows the brave young gentleman to be a man of honour, and worthy her entire confidence. She has got into a sad scrape, and is very decidedly "Caught!"

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

A new collective edition, in one handsome volume of small but clear and fair print, of the *Works of Alfred Tennyson, Poet Laureate*, is now published by Messrs. C. Kegan Paul and Co. It contains the well-known earlier poems, which the author now calls "Juvenilia;" the "Lady of Shalott," "The Miller's Daughter," "The Palace of Art," "The May Queen," and others, forming a second series; the "English Idylls," including "Dora" and "The Gardener's Daughter," as well as "Locksley Hall;" then "Enoch Arden," and those originally published with it; "The Princess," with many short pieces newly arranged; "The Window," "In Memoriam," "Maud," and "Idylls of the King," complete; and the two historical dramas, "Harold" and "Queen Mary." There is a portrait of Tennyson, engraved on steel; and twenty-five illustrations of different poems, in the form of wood-engravings, upon which we have no particular remark to offer. This volume will, on the whole, find ready acceptance, for the sake of our most popular living writer of English poetry.

The lovers of romantic poetry, with whom John Keats is still a congenial favourite, may take pleasure in the series of nineteen etchings, by Mr. Charles O. Murray, designed to illustrate *The Eve of St. Agnes*, printed on fine large paper (Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington). It is not a poem of the highest and purest motive; but the perception of sensuous beauty has scarcely been more powerfully expressed by any writer in verse or prose. Tennyson would not have conceived the story as Keats has done, but in a spirit of greater moral dignity; the choice of the subject, indeed, is less commendable than the poetical execution. The artist has done his best in these etchings, which are of appropriate character. The frontispiece represents the two lovers, Porphyro and Madeline, stepping out of the doorway, in their midnight flight, while the sleeping porter and the dog lie on the threshold, but are not roused by their noiseless passage.

Sketch-books of foreign travel, amidst the picturesque scenery and figures of the countries usually visited by English family tourists, have often, since the voyage in "Zig-zag," been characterised by an expression of quiet fun; and amusing personalities, which should always be confined to the members of the party, have been mixed up with local subjects. This species of publication is well exemplified in the *Pen and Pencil Notes on the Riviera and in North Italy*, by Mary D. Tothill (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.; and J. Arrowsmith, Bristol). She has considerable talent and skill in outline drawing, and a keen eye, both for landscape or quaint old street and building features of a place, and for human oddities of manner and costume. The range of subjects goes as far as Venice and Verona, including Cannes, Nice, Mentone, Bordighera, San Remo, Oneglia, Savona, Genoa, Sestri, Lerici, Spezia, Pisa, Bologna, and some intermediate places.

A beautiful example of decorative bookwork is *The Story of a Dewdrop*, written by the Rev. Dr. J. R. Macduff, and printed, in bronze, by the publishers, Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co., of London and Belfast. It is adorned with four coloured illustrations, which represent the "Procession of the Queen of the Morning," the "Bird-talk and its Surroundings," the "Nightingale and Dewdrop," and the "Ascent of the Million Army." To explain the first and last, which seem enigmatical, it may be stated that the little fairy-tale is a physical allegory. The Dewdrop, whose condition and business on earth it rather puzzles the Birds—Thrush, Lark, and Nightingale—to find out, is but one of a mighty host of aqueous particles, destined to be taken up into Heaven. The allegory, we now perceive, is spiritual as well as physical—for the detached drop of water is a type of the human soul. There is true poetry, and true moral and religious philosophy, in this conception. The printers have decorated all the pages with a constant variety of exquisitely designed marginal borders, which are, in our judgment, not less valuable than the coloured pictures.

The twelfth series of the *Vanity Fair Album* Portraits (12, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden), contains but few persons of the first eminence. These have, indeed, mostly figured in previous volumes. Lord Beaconsfield, however, reappears, but only as walking arm-in-arm with Lord Rowton, late his private secretary, Mr. Montagu Corry. Three members of the Liberal Cabinet—Mr. Gladstone, Lord Hartington, and Mr. Chamberlain,—are likewise put on the Treasury Bench together. Many of the other portraits are those of third or fourth rate persons, known in the Clubs, but not to England at large. The comments, by "Jehu, Junior," are often unjust, and neither shrewd nor witty.

Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin's *International Portrait Gallery* (Second Series) consists of twenty slightly tinted lithographs, which present tolerable likenesses, with good memoirs, of the following men of the day:—President Grévy, the King of Spain, Sir Bartle Frere, Gustave Doré, Father Hyacinth, Professor Vambery, M. Waddington, Count Schouvaloff, Sir Arthur Gordon, General Grant, Louis Blanc, Lord A. Loftus, Count Beust, Wendell Holmes, Sir Hercules Robinson, the Duc d'Aumale, Emile Castelar, Sir G. F. Bowen, M. Lesseps, and Mr. James Russell Lowell.

The fourth volume of *Cassell's Natural History*, edited by Professor P. Martin Duncan, F.R.S., continues the description of birds, which is written by Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, treating here of the perching birds, the rooks and crows, and birds of paradise; the thrushes, the finches, the starlings, the game-birds, the wading birds, geese, ducks, and gulls, the divers, the ostriches, and other groups. Then come the reptiles, tortoises, crocodiles, and lizards, and the snakes. These are described by the editor of this work; and he also deals with the amphibious animals. The illustrations are good, and very abundant.

Among the more imaginative and original works of entertainment, accompanied with illustrations, we particularly like a small volume called *The Children's Journey, with other Stories* (Strahan and Co.), by the author of "Our Children's Story," and the "Voyage en Zigzag." Its spirit is delightful, kindly, delicate, and gently humorous, and the little tales have a touching interest; the author's drawings, too, are both clever and pleasing. There is a new edition (Bradbury, Agnew, and Co.) of *Our Autumn Holiday on French Rivers;* the narrative written by Mr. J. L. Molloy, the engravings drawn by Mr. Linley Sambourne. It relates, as some readers will remember with pleasure, the adventures of four Englishmen in a four-oared skiff, up the Seine and down the Loire, with brief glances at many places of interest, and at the manners and humours of French country life. Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. have reproduced, in a new and smaller form, electrotyped and printed in bronze, *Child's Play*, by E. V. B., which is a charming book of story-verses and original drawings.

Boys' books of stirring adventure have been produced for the present season. The late Mr. W. H. G. Kingston, author of many popular works of this class, has left *The Heir of Kilfinnan* (Sampson Low and Co.), which is a "Tale of the Shore and the Ocean," partly on the West Coast of Ireland, partly in the West Indies. *With the Colours* (G. Routledge and Sons), by R. Mounteney Jephson, is the story of a young military subaltern, Robert Froyle, serving with his regiment at Corfu and Gibraltar, and in China and Japan.

The Demon of Cawnpore (Sampson Low and Co.) is a translation from Jules Verne, and we need not say that it refers to the notorious Nana Sahib; but it is the supposed and rumoured survival of that atrocious malefactor, ten years after the Cawnpore massacre of 1857, his wanderings in disguise through different provinces of India, and his attempts to raise fresh conspiracies and insurrections, that form the subject of this exciting narrative.

The Golden Grasshopper, another of Mr. W. H. G. Kingston's tales, is published by the Religious Tract Society; it has appeared before, under the title of *The Royal Merchant*. It is a very fair specimen of instructive historical fiction, being mainly occupied with Sir Thomas Gresham and his Elizabethan contemporaries, and serving to illustrate the social and religious, political, and mercantile transactions of that age, and the struggles of the Dutch and Flemish Protestants against Spanish tyranny. The new title of this story is an allusion to the huge copper-gilt grasshopper, which was Gresham's family crest, displayed on the top of the high turret at the east front of the Royal Exchange. The narrative purports to be written by Ernst Verner, of Antwerp, formerly secretary to the great London merchant.

No better book for a boy, as boys go, has lately come in our way than Mr. Frank Stockton's *Jolly Fellowship* (C. Kegan Paul and Co.). It is in the form of an autobiography; the supposed writer is a New York lad of sixteen; his comrade is a youth named "Rectus," whose family surname is Colbert; and there is a brave girl, "Corny" or Cornelia Chipperton, one of their fellow-passengers in a voyage to the Bahamas. Plenty of bustling adventure, with a spice of danger, and a sufficient mixture of drollery, make up this entertaining American story.

For girls' reading, in their turn, good provision has likewise been made. Routledge's *Every Girl's Annual*, edited by Miss Alicia Leith, is a magazine of stories, short biographical sketches, little moral essays, songs and other poetry, riddles, puzzles, and proverbs, and bits of useful knowledge. We presume that *Peter Parley's Annual* (Ben George, publisher), with its nine coloured pictures, is rather intended for boys; it contains the stories of "Hal Stacey" and "Maximilian de Leste," with many other light and readable articles.

Cassell's Family Magazine, the yearly volume of which is before us, presents a great variety of wholesome reading; the tales are, in general, of considerable originality and interest, while the descriptive notices of scientific inventions, and of places worth visiting in England or abroad, will be acceptable to many intelligent young readers. Not less praise is due to *The Welcome, a Magazine for the Home Circle*, which is published by Messrs. S. W. Partridge and Co., and has common editorship with the *Family Friend*. The frontispiece of this volume is a portrait of the Princess of Wales, set in a gilt border. Most of the illustrations to the text are well chosen and effective in style. Scribner's illustrated magazine for girls and boys, edited by Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, is called *St. Nicholas;* and the eighth yearly volume, divided into two parts, is a treasure of good reading and fine engravings. We may also commend the volumes of *Golden Hours* (W. Poole) and *Chatterbox* (W. Wells Gardner) to the juvenile part of the public.

For the younger children we have some more playful entertainment furnished in *Little Buttercup's Picture-Book* (Routledge), with fine bold engravings, well drawn and well printed; *My Own Picture-Book* (Religious Tract Society), equally well illustrated; the *Day Dawn Album* (Routledge), and the *Family Circle Picture-Book* (James Clarke, Fleet-street). We should recommend, for thoughtful children of ten or twelve, Mr. H. A. Harper's *Illustrated Letters from the Holy Land*, published by the Religious Tract Society. Routledge's *Singing Quadrilles* are delightful to look at, and must be not less delightful to hear sung. The music, by Myles B. Foster, is composed for such popular little ditties as "The Queen of Hearts," and "Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son," but for only a single voice. The illustrations, drawn by Mrs. Staples (M. E. E.) and by Mr. Chantrey Corbould, are daintily printed in light colours by Mr. Edmund Evans. *Children's Daily Bread* (Religious Tract Society) consists of a picture, text of Scripture, and verse for every day in the year. *Uncle John's Anecdotes of Animals and Birds* (S. W. Partridge) is well calculated to foster a kindly regard for the brute creation.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Chapman, William Edward; Vicar of Faringdon, Berks.
Harrison, Alban Henry; Vicar of St. Andrew's, Deal.
Hirsch, H.; Rector of St. Michael's, Wood-street, Cheapside.
Jennings, H. E.; Organising Secretary to the Pretoria Diocesan Fund.
Jephson, Arthur William; Vicar of St. John's, Waterloo-road.
Myles, James Perceval; Surrogate of the Consistory Court of Bristol.
Nicholas, W. L., Curate of Rhyl; Rector of Flint.
Scriven, Thomas Fowell Buxton; Vicar of Luttons Ambo.
Smith, Walter Landon; Rector of Bisley, Surrey.
Trendell, W. H.; Honorary Organising Secretary for the County of Lincoln for the Missions to Seamen Society.
Willacy, Thomas Robert; Perpetual Curate of Thorganby.—*Guardian.*

By the liberality of the Earl of Sheffield, the ancient parish church of Fletching, Sussex, has been restored, at a cost of £6000, and has been reopened by the Bishop of Chichester.

The Dean of Westminster preached at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, on Sunday morning in aid of the maintenance and extension of the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton.

Recently, the Bishop of Lichfield consecrated at Tipton a new church, which has been built at a cost of £5100. The Earl of Dudley and Mr. W. Roberts, an ironmaster, have erected the tower at their joint expense.

An effort, some years in progress, for restoring the parish church of Althorpe, Lincolnshire, has been munificently assisted by the representatives of the late Mrs. Skipworth, of Risley Hall, near Derby, the lady of the manor, who had the matter of the restoration of the church greatly at heart. These gentlemen have reseated the chancel with stalls of carved oak.

The Bishop of Manchester on Wednesday week consecrated the new Church of St. Philip, which had been erected, at a cost of £8500, at the Griffin, Blackburn. In his sermon he dwelt upon the present disturbed state of the Church of England. He said that the platform of the National Church was broad enough to admit the three great schools of thought—Broad, High, and Low.

The Bishop of Winchester lately reopened the parish church of Frimley, upon the improvement of which a sum of £1250 has been spent, under the direction of Mr. Goodchild. Under the east window has been set up the following legend, which speaks for itself:—"This chancel has been restored, and window given as a memorial by their family to James Fitchett Burrell, lord of the manor of Frimley, who died Jan. 24, 1858, aged sixty-four years, and Joanna, his wife, who died Nov. 2, 1869, aged seventy-eight years.

On the formation of the new diocese of Liverpool, a number of valuable gifts were offered to the Bishopric committee for their acceptance on behalf of this new see. Among these were a superb service of altar plate, consisting of two flagons, four chalices, four patens, and four plates, the munificent gift of Mrs. Lawrence; and to these were added, by Messrs. Elkington and Co., the offer of a magnificent alms-dish. The designs for the entire service have now been completed by Messrs. Elkington and Co., with the assistance of eminent authorities in ecclesiastical art.

Application, in regard to the notices of appeal lodged by Mr. Pelham Dale and Mr. Enraght, was made last Saturday in the Court of Appeal for the discharge of those gentlemen from custody until their cases can be heard, on the understanding that they refrain from all participation in the performance of Divine worship. The application was granted. Mr. Enraght, however, remains in Warwick Gaol, having, it is stated, expressed his determination not to accept his liberty on the terms stipulated by the Court of Appeal.

A considerable number of the parishioners of St. James's Westminster (or, as it is more usually called, St. James's, Piccadilly) met on Monday evening in the Vestry-hall for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Mr. F. Crane, of Regent-street, who has held the position of churchwarden for many years during the incumbency of the Bishop of London and of the Rev. J. S. Kempe. The testimonial consisted of a kettle, teapot, coffee-pot, sugar-basin, milk-jug, and biscuit-box, all of silver, and it was presented by the Rev. J. S. Kempe, who reviewed Mr. F. Crane's career of usefulness and beneficence.

The Court of Assistants of the Sons of the Clergy met at the Corporation House, Bloomsbury-place, on Saturday last, for the purpose of considering petitions from a large number of curates and other poor clergymen for a share in the funds annually distributed at this time of the year. The applications laid before the Court by Mr. Paget Bowman, the registrar, were more numerous than usual, while the income of the society has been seriously affected by the necessity of making allowances and reductions of rent to the corporation tenants, and by the general depression, rendering it impossible for the governors to meet with adequate grants the pressing claims presented to them. The petitions, including a few from widows and daughters of clergymen, numbered 155, and in almost every case a grant was made.

The decoration of the chancel of St. Peter's, Belsize-park, has been completed, under the direction of Mr. W. G. Taylor.—A stained-glass window, by Messrs. Jones and Willis, of Birmingham, has recently been inserted at Trinity Church, Ystalyfera, South Wales, bearing the following inscription:—"This window was erected by the sorrowing inhabitants of Ystalyfera and its neighbourhood, in affectionate remembrance and to perpetuate the memory of Emily, the beloved wife of Mr. James Palmer Budd, of Ynisydaren, who died May 14, 1880."—Two stained-glass windows, by Messrs. Clayton and Bell, have been placed in the little church of Stepleton, in the county of Dorset. They are the gift of Lady Rivers, in memory of her husband, the last Baron Rivers, of Rushmere, who is buried in the churchyard.—A beautiful stained-glass window has been placed in the North Chapel of St. Neots Church, Hunts, in memory of the late Mr. George Dawson Rowley, the design being carried out by Messrs. Hardman and Co.

The Duke of Newcastle has again returned to his tenants 20 per cent. of their rents in consideration of the severe depression in agriculture.

THE EVE OF PANTOMIME.

The loves of Harlequin and Columbine, the delightful pranks of that arch-mischief-maker, Mr. Clown, the doddering senility of old Pantaloon, perpetually falling and inevitably to be hitched up again, belong to the orthodox programme of Christmas as much as the happy-family gathering and the present-laden tree. When the boys come home for the holidays, and the children emerge from their quiet corners and throw down as exhausted pleasures their annuals and picture-books and illustrated numbers, it is as certain that this great pantomime question will be mooted in the family circle as that fiery plum-puddings will be placed on the dining-table and pretty girls kissed under the mistletoe. We hear a great deal about the changes in our Christmas customs, and so-called cynics endeavour to embitter the recollections of what has been once, and may be now, a happy season; but pantomime has changed only in degree since Grimaldi acted at Sadler's Wells and wore a mask in the character of Clown. The old order of pantomime remains pretty much the same, and consists of a fairy opening, a gorgeous ballet, a transformation-scene, and a harlequinade. No pantomime deserves the patronage of the children unless the water-nymphs in their sea-caves and the representatives of flowers in their sylvan homes are duly contrasted with a plentiful supply of demons, and with attendants, in comic masks of huge proportion. Of late years there has, no doubt, been a tendency to exaggerate the spectacular part of the entertainment at the expense of the fun, to outlengthen the ballet scenes until they become tedious, to drag out the opening to an interminable length, to curtail the clown and to prefer the dull doggrel of music-hall singers to the merry and inoffensive humour of the harlequinade.

Managers this coming Christmas have resolved, it would appear, to reform this altogether, to banish the "lion comique" to the noisy clatter of the drinking-hall, and to remember that little innocent children would far rather see the comic scenes of a Drury-Lane pantomime, an animated bed-post or the clown warming pantaloon's bed, the sausages stolen, the maid-servant kissed, and the slide buttered, than all the double meanings that could be invented for the funniest songs of music-hall stars. If it be true that at least one manager has determined to restore, as far as possible, the art of pure pantomime and to make the audiences laugh and not yawn, many will be thankful for the relief. It should not be difficult, indeed, to revive the old skill of expressing the various emotions, comic or pathetic, in dumb show, or with such few words as vary the monotony, for, although no "Garrick of clowns" may be in our midst to astonish us with his genius like Grimaldi, there are pantomimists of new and old schools sufficient to provide amusement for the thousands of Christmas holiday-makers. Alas! time and circumstances have reduced the Payne family to a minimum. Covent Garden Theatre will no longer echo with laughter of the old gentleman—the best pantomimist of the present generation—and his clever sons; and the wealth of humour is now alone possessed by Harry Payne, the Covent Garden clown, who is a funny fellow, without striving after effect or committing himself to exaggeration, and who can be witty without a trace of vulgarity. But the famous Vokes family, the Girards, the Hanlon Lees, the D'Aubans, and the Martinettis present a bold front against the army of incompetence, and have proved their power of humour not only in England but all over the European continent. Lucky the theatre that possesses any of these troupes or families, for they are inventors as well as executants, and are existing proof, if any were needed, that the art of pantomime is not dead.

The pantomime year of 1880 will be remarkable for the curious shuffle of the cards that sends so many old friends and faces to Covent Garden that have hitherto reigned supreme at Drury Lane. The Vokes Family, still active as ever, but losing the services of the fascinating and incomparable Rosina; Mr. F. B. Chatterton, the producer of who shall say how many successful pantomimes; Mr. John Cormack, once a famous harlequin in the days of Charles Kean at the Princess's, and the best trainer of ballets and stage-children in existence; Mr. Karl Meyder, the German conductor, who has lived long enough in England to understand the requirements of the gallery boys, all transfer their services to Covent Garden, and enlist under the banner of the Messrs. Gatti. And last, but certainly not least, Mr. William Beverley, who, with Mr. E. L. Blanchard, have done more for the refinement and grace of pantomime during the last forty years than any two men living, will paint scenes for the big house and leave old Drury to younger and more ambitious hands. Mr. Beverley, whose right hand has not forgotten its cunning, is prepared this year to enchant us as much as he did in the days of "old Lyceum loves," when Planché wrote and Madame Vestris managed, and has painted "a panorama" for Covent Garden, which will doubtless be one of the chief attractions of the pantomime year. The Covent Garden pantomime has been written by Mr. F. C. Burnand, the editor of *Punch* and well-known humourist; and this fact seems to show that in "Valentine and Orson" there will be plenty of good rollicking fun, and some good songs into the bargain. The charming Victoria Vokes will enact Valentine, the representative of chivalry. Mr. Fred Vokes, the hero of the black elastic legs, will be a most comical Orson, and an excellent comedian; Mr. J. G. Taylor has been engaged to play King Pippin, who rules over a very startling court of funny fellows. In a very short time we shall know all about the Green Knight, the conspiracy of Henry and Haufrey, the sons of King Pippin; the charms of the Princess Florimanda; the splendid tournament in which Eglantine, Agatha, and Pacolet engage; and doubtless be enthusiastic concerning the Watteau ballet, which will be on a scale of unparalleled magnificence. To see the Vokes is as essential to the happiness of the children as to eat mince-pie—the oftener you have seen the family the happier will be the years in the future; and so the success of Covent Garden pantomime is secured beforehand, backed up as it is by an old-fashioned Drury Lane combination of experience and good taste.

One commander is, however, faithful to the old ship. It would be as well to wipe Christmas out of the calender altogether as to tolerate such an unheard-of anachronism as a Drury Lane pantomime without Mr. E. L. Blanchard. The scene-shifters would revolt, the stage door-keeper perform some act of open mutiny; the gas-man would lose his head, the property-master throw up his engagement, and the children pelt Mr. Augustus Harris with oranges and nubbly lemons had he dared to dream of allowing "Mother Goose and the Enchanted Beauty" to appear without the familiar and ever respected name. One word about this said E. L. Blanchard, who is renowned throughout the land as having the best hand for the making of a Christmas pudding, and never allows a year to pass without causing us to be thankful for his kind heart and ceaseless fancy. Would you really believe, though I can assure you it is true, that E. L. Blanchard has had a finger in our pantomime pies, more or less, since the year 1835—close upon fifty years ago? As "Francisco Frost," this merry writer produced, from 1840 to 1849, about twenty pantomimes for the Olympic, Surrey, and Victoria Theatres. He peeped out from behind the alias of "The Brothers Grinn" in succeeding years, and has written times out of number for Covent Garden, the Princess's, Astley's, as well as the Crystal and Alexandra Palaces. The first pantomime produced at Drury Lane with the name of E. L. Blanchard attached to it was "Harlequin Hudibras; or, the Droll Days of the Merry Monarch," which was produced on Boxing Night, 1852; and since then, for twenty-eight successive years, the same pen, that has not one blush or blot on one of its feathers, has regularly supplied the Drury "Christmas Annuals."

By looking at the future, far as human eye can see, it is not difficult to detect an admirable subject in "Mother Goose." It was a very favourite one, as we all know, with Grimaldi. The happy combination of Mother Goose with the Sleeping Beauty gives a hint that Mr. E. L. Blanchard has travelled into Fairyland this year with a book in his hand by Charles Perrault, called "Contes de ma Mère l'Oie," and there discovered the French original of "La Belle au Bois Dormant;" but you may be quite sure that the subject familiar to every child in the kingdom will be treated in charming fashion, and contrived so as to suit young and old alike. France cannot claim, any more than Germany, the legend of the Princess at whose christening an important godmother was omitted; and I certainly remember in the nursery days a little volume called "The Hope of the Katzekoffs," in which the wicked and indignant fairy godmother dragged the unhappy infant through a keyhole and cast many other unholy spells on the poor child that have lingered on my memory ever since. This story was German, and not French, and it certainly is a most orthodox subject for Christmas pantomime. Mr. Augustus Harris, a very new, young, and energetic broom, is apparently determined to revive the splendours of Drury Lane, and to compel every paterfamilias to go to the play and take the olive-branches with him. The D'Aubans and Julian Girard will support the spirit of pure pantomime. Miss Kate Santley returns to the stage as the star of the singers. Arthur Roberts and James Fawn can safely be depended on for the acting; the ballets are said to be enchanting, and Mr. Alfred Thompson has been employed for some time past in designing the dresses that are so important a feature in these costly spectacles. Here also, as at Covent Garden, panorama will be a feature, and for the purpose Mr. William Telbin has been engaged to support the tradition of his famous family. In the other departments of scenic art he will be assisted by Mr. Henry Emden, who has been intrusted with the transformation scene. Mr. Augustus Harris is, however, wise in his generation in desiring to hurry on the harlequinade, which is the legitimate fun of Christmas time, and to see personally that the tricks are good enough to keep people on their seats until all is over for the evening. With Mr. F. Wallenstein in the orchestra, and glitter as well as fun in front of him, great things are naturally expected of "Mother Goose" at the orthodox home of pantomime.

Where is Mr. George Conquest to be found, one who created the fame of the pantomime at the Grecian Theatre in the City-road, and by his art united the East and the West? He has enlisted this year under the banner of Mr. William Holland, at the Surrey, and has helped the "people's caterer" in producing "Hop o' my Thumb; or, Harlequin Nobody, Busybody, Somebody, and the Wicked Ogre with the Seven League Boots," a pantomime that has been written by Mr. Frank W. Green, and, as usual, will be bright with pretty faces and clever people. Mr. Conquest, happily recovered from his American accident, is a host in himself; and it is a subject of interest that Miss Topsy Elliott, the pretty dancer, who was nearly burned to death a few years ago, is quite well, and prepared to lead the ballet once more. Herbert Campbell and Arthur Williams will be found at the Grecian, where Mr. Pettitt, one of the Drury-Lane authors, has written "Harlequin King Frolic." Mr. Douglas, of the Standard, will give us "Harlequin Wide-Awake the Sleeping Beauty," and a gorgeous tranformation scene; the Brothers Grinn give "Aladdin" to the Crystal Palace; and "Puss in Boots," with Mr. J. H. Friend to look after the cat, is promised at the Alexandra Palace at Muswell-hill. At the Imperial Theatre, Westminster, instead of a pantomime, the Hanlon-Lees will return to London to give their curious and eccentric entertainment "Le Voyage en Suisse," and better pantomime will be there found than at most theatres. There are two excellent circuses provided for the children—one at Hengler's, in Argyll-street, Regent-street, the other at old-fashioned Astley's, in the Westminster Bridge-road, where Mr. Sanger reigns supreme. The Alhambra gives, as usual, elaborate opera—in this case "Mefistofele II.," by Hervé, and Mendelssohn's "Walpurgis Night" music—to say nothing of a new ballet by Alfred Thompson, which will test the limit of the beautiful stage and the resources of this elaborate establishment.

Turning our backs on London proper, and directing our footsteps "down East," we find kindly Mrs. S. Lane at the Britannia with a pantomime founded on a popular French *féerie* called "Harlequin Love's Dream, or the Daughter of the King of the Kingless Kingdom," full of Parisian songs and English humour; and another celebrated Christmas house, the Pavilion, draws upon Frank Green for "Jack and the Beanstalk, or Harlequin King Blushrose, the Fairy Flowers, and the Wicked Weeds of the Nightshade Dell." The "North-west provinces" will not be forgotten, for Mr. Leonard Rae, a clever writer, has composed a new version of "Little Red Riding Hood" for the Park Theatre, and enthusiasts might go farther and fare worse than by taking a trip to Brighton to see Mrs. Nye Chart and her pretty entertainment. The Lady Mr. F. C. Burnand has prepared an eccentric version of "Sandford and Merton" for the German Reeds, and the music will be by that clever composer, Alfred Scott Gatti.

To crown all, there is a "World's Fair," a kind of imitation of the Greenwich festivities of old, at the Agricultural Hall, where circuses, menageries, and peep-show will revive the recollections of Bartelemy and the traditions of the famous showman, Richardson. C. S.

JAPANESE PICTURES OF ENGLISH CHRISTMAS.

The Japanese school of art, which is made the subject of an interesting discussion in Sir E. J. Reed's new book on Japan reviewed by us last week, is especially strong in original designs of a grotesque and comical nature. We also noticed, two years ago, the delightful volume compiled by Mrs. M. Chaplin-Ayrton, called "Child-Life in Japan," which contained reproductions of many Japanese engravings, drawn in the boldest and most vigorous style, representing the favourite games and playthings of native children, and illustrating some of the popular nursery-tales that have been current through successive younger generations in that Far Eastern country. Readers of her book, which was published by Messrs. Griffith and Farran, will not fail to remember the chapter describing, in a talk between a little boy and his sister, all the holiday delights and glories of "O'Shogwats." That is the name of the Japanese yearly festival, most nearly corresponding with our English Christmas in its general acceptance as the great annual occasion for an array of ceremonial entertainments and adornments of domestic life, such as most people like to see observed in every cheerful household at least once in the twelvemonth. It is the celebration of the New Year in Japan, and several days of January are devoted to the prescribed routine of customary treats. This begins with the erection, before the gate of each house, of a sort of trophy, displaying, on a grass-rope or bamboo extended across boughs of different species of pine, certain mystic figures cut out in paper, with an allegorical lobster, oranges, fern-leaves, and seaweed, of historical or mythological significance, and other articles supposed to have the efficacy of sacred "charms." They will serve, we are told, "to bar out the nasty two-toed red, grey, and black demons, the badgers, foxes, and other evil spirits, from crossing the threshold." Among the ordinary performances of this festival is the solemn cooking and eating of some very particular rice-cakes, which are, it is said, the precise equivalent of our Christmas pudding. The boys and girls are further provided with a toy ship, called the Daikokujime; and a set of dolls or small images, the "Seven Lords of Wealth," embarked as passengers arriving in the "Ship of Riches," bring a fancied promise of good fortune at the commencement of the year.

Since the recent sudden and rapid increase of mercantile and social communications between England and Japan, the lively and intelligent people of that country have felt a great curiosity to learn all they can of our domestic manners, as well as of our arts and sciences, our laws and public institutions. As European fashions of dress are now worn at the Mikado's Imperial Court, and carriages like ours have begun to supersede the palanquin or "norimon" and the "jin-rik-sha," the journalists, novelists, dramatists, and popular artists of Japan frequently amuse their public with pictures of English life. A translation of passages from the travelling diary of a well-educated Japanese gentleman who lately visited England appeared the other day in one of our monthly magazines. We are not entirely prepared to give an account of the personal antecedents of "Kru-Shan-Ki," the highly original artist whose designs, intended to illustrate the English way of keeping Christmas, appear in this week's Number of our Journal. He has evidently found, somewhere or other, on opportunity of making himself acquainted with the habits of our countrymen and countrywomen at home, whose seasonable pleasures and pastimes occupy the greater part of the page filled with his characteristic drawings.

Beginning with the upper left-hand corner of the page, we perceive that he has got a tolerably good notion of a Christmas Pantomime at one of our theatres. The stage, with its row of footlights, the orchestra, pit stalls, and side-boxes, are correctly arranged; the pantomime actors, Clown, Pantaloon, and Harlequin, with some of the stage properties, a big fish, a number of stolen clocks, and the head of a decapitated policeman, are familiar to us all. The faces and gestures of the musicians, and of the critical gentlemen and ladies in the stalls, are rendered with great power of expression.

The making of the Christmas pudding, at which all the members and servants of a respectable family are supposed to give their personal assistance or superintendence, is the subject of Kru-Shan-Ki's next design. He may possibly be found in error with regard to some details of furniture and costume; but it cannot be doubted that he has actually seen an English kitchen range, with its proper utensils; though we do not see the fireplace that can admit so huge a pot; and why have these cooks forgotten to tie up their pudding in a cloth?

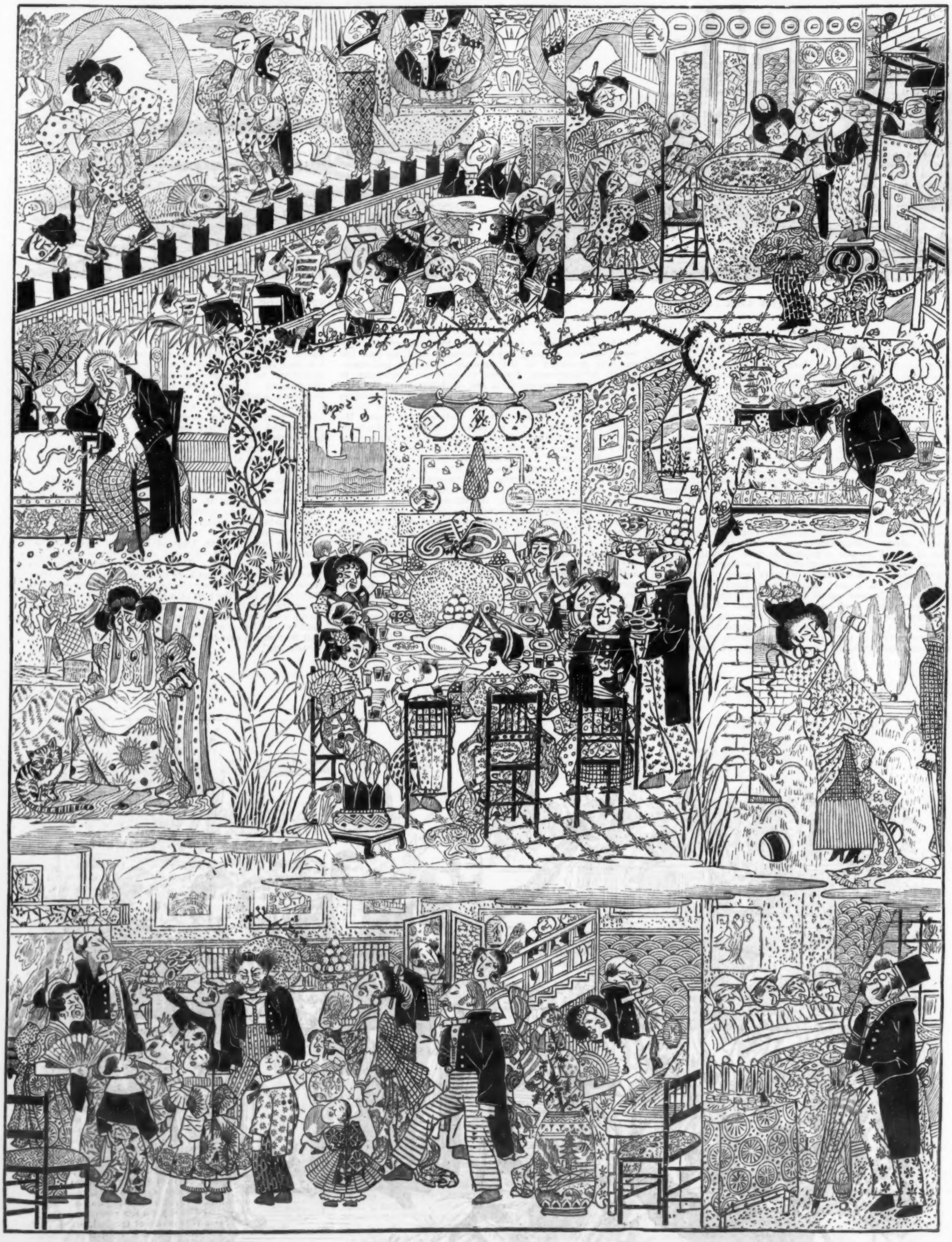
The central picture of the page shows the happy family party seated at their Christmas dinner. In the middle of the table is placed a large bird, which looks rather like a pelican, but which may be intended for a turkey or a goose. How the carver is to reach it, we have no business to ask. There is a pile of oranges, or some other large fruit, and several plates of almonds and raisins, the dessert appearing with the solid meats; and behind the mighty pudding, which must weigh about 2 cwt., adorned with its sprig of Christmas holly, we catch a glimpse of cod or salmon, which may or may not be in season at the end of December. The guests, being English, eat with knives and forks, instead of chop-sticks, and each has a big and a little tumbler, for the ale and wine. They are, one and all, making dreadful faces, as if the viands were uncommonly nasty. The Japanese may think so they are.

To the right and left of this "gay and festive cuss," as Mr. Sala's American friends would say, in the upper compartments sit two solitary old bachelors, each of whom has dined alone. One of them is staying at home, smoking a regular long clay, and sipping his pint of claret, which does not seem exactly right. The other is an aristocratic lounger, whose superfine dandyism is shown in the decorations of his person and the elegant furniture of his chambers. He has got the biggest Regalia that ever came from the port of Havannah, and its perfume and flavour have brought him into a state of ecstatic repose. Observe the fencing-foils and boxing-gloves, as well as the bowl of gold-fish, that are introduced among the cherished appurtenances of this gentleman's single blessedness. The old maiden lady with her cat, dozing away the long evening in a great wadded arm-chair, may be left to her peaceful nap. A younger damsel, but not so young as she wishes to be thought, on the opposite side, is playing croquet with a surly admirer in tartan plaid, who shows but half his face. We should like to ask Kru-Shan-Ki, if Japan were not too far off, how he can imagine that any of us in England play croquet on the garden lawn at Christmas time?

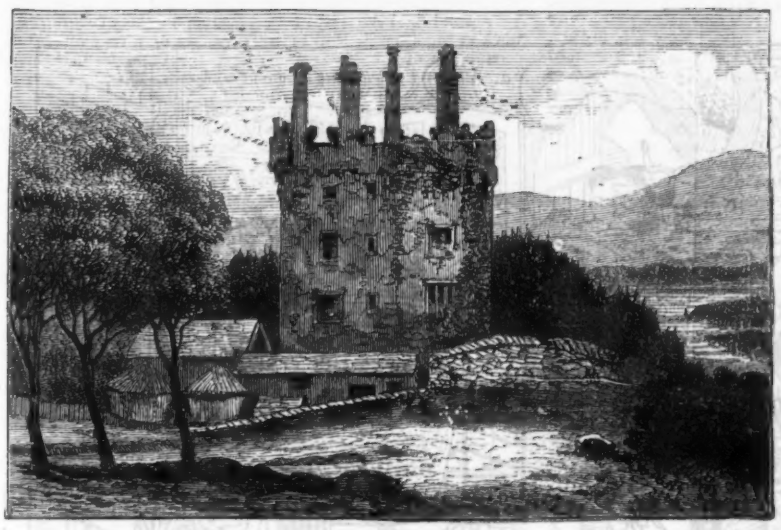
The Children's Christmas Party, which occupies the greater portion of space below, seems to us remarkably good; some of the faces are quite as English as those drawn by our London artists. There is Papa, or, it may be, Uncle, with bushy whiskers and brushy hair sticking out on each side of his head, whom we could almost swear to having met the other day going into the Temple. He is balancing the full inkstand upon the bald top of his pate, and therewith dancing a jig to the peril of his white shirt and necktie, but to the delight of the little folk. He must be their funny Uncle, not their Papa, for we observe that Mamma is not very well pleased. Grandpapa and Grandmamma, to the left hand, scarcely approve this frolic. There is flirting between a sedate couple beside the screen, and the musical lady at the piano has a polite man to turn over the leaves for her. Through the open door, we can spy two little urchins who have been sent upstairs to bed, still lingering on their way up, to enjoy the evening merriment yet a few moments longer.

Last scene of all, one that is almost tragical, brings in the pompous doctor, to give nauseous but needful physic—why not throw it to the dogs!—when the treacherous delights of feasting over-much have had their too frequent effect. The patients, all in a row, as if at the counter of a dispensary, await their turn for consultation and prescription. We are sorry they look so ill, but we hope they will soon be well.

Professor E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S., gave the Monday evening lecture at the London Institution. His subject was "Growth from the Egg."



AN ENGLISH CHRISTMAS AS DEPICTED BY A JAPANESE ARTIST. DRAWN BY KRU-SHAN-KI.—SEE PRECEDING PAGE.



LOUGH MASK CASTLE.

DISTANT VIEW OF LOUGH MASK CASTLE.

LOUGH MASK AND CAPTAIN BOYCOTT.

We give two views of Lough Mask Castle, in Mayo, belonging to the Earl of Erne, whose resident agent, Captain Boycott, was recently exposed to the Irish Land League persecution, and was assisted by a party of volunteer labourers to get in his harvest, under the protection of a large military force. A correspondence between Captain Boycott and the Prime Minister has been published, with reference to his application to Government for pecuniary compensation, estimating his losses at not less than £6000. His personal testimony may here be given, as justifying an appeal which is now made to provide him compensation by means of a public subscription, there being no Government fund available for that purpose:—

"About thirty years ago I settled in the West of Ireland, relying upon the assurances which were then held out to all English settlers that the land laws were simplified, and that capital might be safely invested in that country. For many years I lived in the island of Achill, and after a long struggle against adverse circumstances my means improved, and, for that district, I became a prosperous man. Family circumstances placed me subsequently in possession of further capital, and I took a thirty-one years' lease of a farm at Lough Mask, in county Mayo, under Lord Erne. Subsequently I became agent for his Lordship, and a few other proprietors, and laid out the whole of my capital (amounting to £6000) on permanently improving and stocking my land. In the course of my duties as agent to Lord Erne, I was compelled to serve ejectment notices on some tenants, who could, but would not, pay their rents; and for this act I was denounced by the Land League, my farm servants were terrorized into quitting my employment, and my own life was only protected by the presence of armed policemen. It will be unnecessary for me to do more than refer to subsequent occurrences. You are, doubtless, aware that the Government dispatched into Mayo a large force of soldiers and police to protect fifty labourers from the North of Ireland, who voluntarily saved a portion of my crops. My object is to state to you my present condition. When the military were withdrawn, I was compelled to leave with them. Had I not done so, my life would not have been safe for one hour; and so great is the power of the Land League that even in Dublin the landlord of the hotel where I stopped declined to allow me to remain more than twenty-four hours in the house, as he was threatened if he ventured to harbour me. Under such circumstances, it follows that my property in Mayo is rendered utterly valueless to me. I left a caretaker on the place, but know nothing of what has since occurred. My house is full of furniture, which I cannot remove; my sheep and cattle are insufficiently tended on two of the farms, and on the others have been driven away, and the land is lying waste. Before I left, hardly a night passed without some injury being done—walls were thrown down, gates had their locks broken, and every other havoc was done which the people could commit. I learn, also, from the public prints that the hay has been carried away and made use of by those who stole it since I left my house. The circumstances which compelled me to leave Mayo prevent my return. There is an absolute absence of law there; and if I ventured back it would be to find the same system which drove me out still in force, and I should be unable to pursue my business or protect my property. Such is a plain statement of the facts, and I venture to think they entitle me to assistance at the hands of her Majesty's Government. I have been prevented from pursuing my business peaceably; where my property has not been stolen it has been maliciously wasted, and my life has been in hourly peril for many months. At length, in defiance of all law and order, I have been driven from my house, and, having done no evil, find myself a ruined man because the law, as administered, has not protected me. I am prepared to verify all my statements, and prove the extent of my losses."

The above letter, with the official reply from the First Lord of the Treasury, has been forwarded to the papers by Major-General Burnaby and Mr. W. A. Day, promoting the intended subscription. These gentlemen further observe that "statements having been circulated by the Land League that Mr. Boycott was severe to the tenants of his employers, he has been prejudiced in England by these representations. Three years ago Mr. Boycott ejected three tenants who owed seven years' rent. These men were replaced in their houses as caretakers, and have so remained ever since. With these exceptions, he never ejected a tenant. Neither did Mr. Boycott ever raise the rent of a tenant. The only instance in which the rent of any land under his charge was raised was on one estate when some tenants left, and on their leaving the land was re-let at rent offered for it by new applicants, and that rent was in excess of the sum at which the land was previously let."

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES TO THE 23RD MIDDLESEX VOLUNTEERS: "THREE CHEERS FOR GENERAL ROBERTS!"—SEE NEXT PAGE.

NEW BOOKS.

In these days, when the impending State prosecutions of Mr. Parnell and the other leaders of the Irish Land League engage our attention, Daniel O'Connell's trial at Dublin, with other Repeal agitators, in 1844, is naturally brought to mind. The first volume of *Young Ireland*, by Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, K.C.M.G. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin), relates to the circumstances of that affair. The author, who has long resided in Australia, and has there earned high colonial distinction, was editor of the *Nation* at that period, and shared the trial and brief imprisonment of the great O'Connell. He afterwards continued, with Mr. Smith O'Brien and a few men of extreme views, to work the press and platform for an object far less within legitimate political endeavour than the Repeal of the Act of 1800. The silly and mischievous faction called "Young Ireland," which aimed, with little concealment of its ultimate design, to wrench away that portion of the kingdom from its allegiance to our common Sovereign, and would have converted it, apparently, into a Democratic Republic under French or American protection, met with a disgraceful failure in 1848. Its revival, by the name of "Fenianism," in 1867, with a result still more odious and contemptible, is within the memory of a younger generation. Sir C. Gavan Duffy, who underwent a second prosecution for his share in such practices, before Mr. Smith O'Brien's ridiculous military defeat at Ballingarry, has since passed a quarter of a century at the Antipodes; and this exile must be his excuse for not having yet learned enough home truth to see the folly of preaching a violent separation of these islands from each other. The alleged practicability and expediency of a system of administrative and legislative "Home Rule" for Ireland, consistent with the monarchical unity of the entire realm, would seem to be a very different question. This might very well, like O'Connell's demand for simple Repeal of the Union of the British and Irish Parliaments, be entertained without a shade of treason. O'Connell himself, after the collapse of his agitation in 1844, was inclined to look with some complacency upon the project of a sort of Federal Constitution. But Mr. Charles Duffy, as he then was, and his colleagues of the *Nation*, Mr. T. O. Davis, Mr. Dillon, and others, with the young men like-minded, Messrs. John Mitchel, Thomas Francis Meagher, John Martin, and Terence M'Manus, who followed the same course, were victims of a mere infatuation. They possessed considerable literary and oratorical talents, with a very small stock of political knowledge derived from books, none at all from practical experience, and the slenderest judgment that youths of liberal education, professional barristers, doctors, and journalists, could bring to the real business of life. The author of this history, though we can sympathise with his personal affection for the associates of his early years, and should respect the amiable sentiment that inspires his constant admiration of their genius and virtue, will never persuade us to believe that all his geese were swans. In short, we do not much care to hear any more about "Young Ireland;" but there is some interest in whatever throws a fresh and clear light on the conduct and opinions of Daniel O'Connell. He was not, by any means, a goose in those of his political conceptions which he really and earnestly cherished; though he was addicted to the vicious practice of sometimes putting forth, as a stalking-horse, other notions which he knew to be vain and futile. The reader may set aside, therefore, at least until we get the second volume, all that concerns the personalities of the junior branch, and its secession or excision from Conciliation Hall in 1845. We peruse the story of O'Connell's Trial, once more, with no small amount of interest, in Sir C. Gavan Duffy's animated narrative chapters. The preceding agitation, which nobody who is old enough to have then watched its daily progress can forget, had been regarded by Sir Robert Peel's Government with much greater alarm than was needful. It is certain that the vast multitudes of Irish peasantry, under the influence of the Roman Catholic parish clergy, mustered round the standard of nationality raised by O'Connell, did not mean fighting, and that O'Connell would have been the last man to think of fighting. There never was any real danger of that kind from the Repeal agitation under his management. He was by temperament and by conscientious and humane feeling, of which he had a good share, notwithstanding his lack of integrity, decidedly averse to civil war. Sir Robert Peel, incapable of appreciating the enormous reach of imaginative and emotional make-believe in the popular Irish mind, thought it necessary to menace O'Connell and Ireland with coercion by military force. This was quite uncalled for at that time, when nobody in Ireland was thinking of rebellion, conspiracy, or treason, but only of association and agitation to fill the coffers of the Repeal Managers. It threw, however, upon O'Connell's big meetings of 1843, as at Tara, at Mullaghmast, and the prohibited meeting at Clontarf, as well as upon his proposed Arbitration Courts and his Convention of Delegates, the aspect of revolutionary violence. The officials of Dublin Castle and the police and magistracy were all rather too zealous, and not too scrupulous in the conduct of the prosecution. It therefore ended in a discreditable failure: the judgment being set aside, upon sufficient legal grounds, by the House of Lords sitting as a Court of Appeal. We trust that no such exhibition of mismanagement will be made in the dealings with the Irish Land League now commenced.

Mr. W. W. Fenn, the accomplished author of a pleasant collection of short stories and sketches of social and domestic life called *After Sundown*, forming two volumes published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co., is not unknown to the readers of this Journal. He was an artist, who unhappily suffered the infliction of partial blindness, but, having no slight degree of literary talent, with a bright and vivid fancy, has been enabled to exchange the use of "the palette" for that of "the pen." This alliterative combination appears on the titlepage of his present work. It is not much above a twelvemonth since he gave us an equal amount of agreeable reading, by the significant title, "Half Hours of Blind Man's Holiday," which consisted of a similar kind of brief separate papers, mostly reprinted from periodical journals. The new series is not less attractive and engaging; it will exactly meet the taste of persons who want a piece of gentle entertainment, one that is complete in itself, not a chapter of a lengthy fashionable novel, say for an hour before bed-time, perhaps over a mild cigar, to give a little easy play to brain and heart after the strain and worry of a business day. There are, in each of these volumes, about twenty papers, each averaging some thirteen pages; but a few of the tales are longer—namely, "The Riddle of the Ring," "The Gipsy Model," "Fair May of Mayfair," "River and Down," and "The Lady in the Blue Barouche," which find place in the first volume; and "The Ghost of a Chance," "A Story of Christmas Firelight," "Valentine's Vigil," "The End of a Dream," "Dorothy's Fortune," and several others, to be found in the second volume of this varied miscellany. "The Old Mill on the Marsh," as the author tells us, was not originally suggested, but was helped into more distinct pictorial descriptiveness and perception of characteristic details by the drawing which his friend and ours Mr. Samuel Read, contributed to the Black and White Exhibition of last year. We should say that no contemporary artist with whose pictures we are much acquainted makes his well-known views of antique buildings, such as the "Haunted House," "The Moated Grange," and "Woodleigh Grange" in our Christmas Number this year, more powerfully suggestive of a romantic imaginative story; they are, indeed, virtually distinct poems, only rendered by the pencil instead of by verse or prose. This is, by the way, in corroboration of Mr. Fenn's incidental testimony; but the writer of these volumes, having himself studied nature as an artist, and practised its delineation with graphic truth and force, as the painter or draughtsman must learn to do, has gained a considerable advantage in his literary vocation. It is evident that Mr. Fenn, as well as Homer, was not blind all his life long, but has seen both town and country, land and ocean, the Ring in Hyde Park, the Sussex Downs, the upper reaches of the Thames, "the Weird Woodland," "Mountains and Molehills," Dartmoor, and other British scenery, not to speak of France and Germany; besides the looks and gestures of men, women, and children, whose various dispositions he has also observed. With these materials, and those created by his own strong imagination, the blind story-teller and essayist makes very good reading.

Prose would have done quite as well as verse, and perhaps better, to tell all that is contained in *Dorothy: a Country Story* (C. Kegan Paul); but a tale, however slight, seems to fill a volume better and to impress both the eye and the mind more in the form of a poem. The poem is written in elegiac metre; and the story thus gains an additional peculiarity, if not an additional charm, and piques curiosity, if it does not stimulate interest. Theocritus employed hexameters for his idylls, and so did Virgil, principally if not entirely; but the anonymous author of "Dorothy" quotes them as if they had written chiefly in the elegiac metre. However, that matters little; Theocritus has left examples enough of the elegiac metre to serve as authority. And, though English elegiacs have an outlandish appearance, the anonymous author causes them to convey his meaning in a very smooth, harmonious fashion. Of course he neglects syllabic quantity, and relies entirely upon accent and emphasis; but even then, as *re.* 1335, 1691, 1998, 2141, and 2163 will suffice to prove, the lines occasionally seem to halt, if conscientious pronunciation is to be attempted. Moreover, he has contrived to give to the whole poem an appropriately simple, rustic, breezy, wholesome air, redolent of rural life and manners; and, so far, he has caught the style of his classic models. Whether he has also caught their manner of investing homely scenes with poetic grace and expressing homely sentiments in poetic language is not quite so certain. Theocritus is certainly realistic; but the anonymous author carries his realism to an extent which might almost satisfy M. Zola, only that, if the diction more than seldom approximates to slang, there is not, either in diction or sentiment, anything bordering upon impropriety. Virgil sang "arms and the man;" the anonymous author sings arms and the woman, and the woman's arms are red and powerful, joining on to hands which are rough, and hard, and begrimed with toil. His heroine, in fact, is a maid of all work at a farm-house, and she is, moreover, of illegitimate birth. She is beautiful in her way, virtuous withal, and full of womanly delicacy as well as of womanly yearnings. Her roughness is all, like physical beauty, but skin deep. Of such a woman, her work, her love, and her marriage the anonymous author writes with manly appreciation. It is to be feared, however, that "for all his pains, poor man, for all his pains," he will not succeed in establishing among the men of this generation, a bangle-wearing generation, the worship of woman with large, red hands and with brawny arms, or among either men or women, however enthusiastic in the cause of women's rights, the belief that to drive the plough, to carry the horse, to work in the pit, are occupations as becoming as less healthy but more "genteel" employments for industrious members of the gentler sex. Yet to establish that worship and that belief appears to be one of his objects. It may be doubted, besides, whether his cause be so much strengthened as weakened by the paternity assigned to his heroine: it might be argued, not without some show of reason, that it was most likely the illegitimate strain of blood that redeemed her from a general coarseness in keeping with that of her hands. However, the poem, if it may be so called, is excellent reading; and equally, if not more, excellent reading is the preface.

Messrs. Vizetelly and Co. are proceeding, as rapidly, no doubt, as circumstances will permit, with their enterprise of publishing, in a very cheap form, translations of carefully selected French novels; and among the latest may be mentioned a volume containing *A New Lease of Life*, together with *Saving a Daughter's Dowry*, both from the French of Edmond About, and another volume containing *Wayward Dosia*, together with *The Generous Diplomatist*, both by Henry Gréville. *A New Lease of Life*, whatever may be the case with the others, had already appeared before in an English dress, but in a far less handy and more expensive form, under the title, if memory can be trusted, of "Colonel Fougas." It is, of course, a translation of M. About's extremely clever and amusing novel entitled "L'Homme à l'Oreille Cassée," and cannot fail to please all who can appreciate wit and elegance, satire and fun.

The veteran Signor Gallenga, in his *South America* (Chapman and Hall), a reprint from the *Times*, has achieved a feat memorable in the annals of newspaper correspondence. So long a journey, involving so many hardships; undertaken at such an age, and performed in so buoyant a spirit, would alone be sufficiently remarkable; but the circumstances of the expedition are almost forgotten in view of its substantial result. Short as was Signor Gallenga's stay in the countries traversed by him, his highly trained intelligence has enabled him to grasp the leading features in the political and social situation of them all; and we hardly know where to look for more luminous, and at the same time more entertaining chapters, than the review of the question between aristocracy and democracy in Chili; or his account of the stupendous engineering works on that vast but premature enterprise the Andean Railway. The book is a panorama of South America, necessarily wanting in minuteness of detail, but satisfying both the understanding and the imagination by its broad, bold presentment of facts on an ample scale.

Our Illustration of the Yorkshire College of Science, at Leeds, in last week's paper, was from drawings furnished by a local artist, Mr. Walter Braithwaite, of Leeds. The architect of the building is Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, of London.

Messrs. Tom Smith and Co., of Wilson-street, Finsbury-square, are even more successful this year than they were in previous years with their Christmas and New-Years' Crackers of various designs—Cupid's, Hymen's, Little Folks', Caricature, Society, Curios, and Crackers of Mount Olympus,—all in tastefully got-up boxes.

THE VOLUNTEERS AND GENERAL ROBERTS.

The annual prize distribution of the 23rd Middlesex Rifle Volunteers (late the 46th) took place on Tuesday evening last week at St. James's Hall in the presence of a very numerous assemblage of friends of the corps, the Countess of Lytton attending to perform the ceremony of presentation. The Earl of Lytton did not arrive until after the distribution of prizes had been completed. Upon his entrance, accompanied by Lord Chelmsford, Major-General Sir Frederick Roberts, and General Ross, the distinguished party was received with military honours. Sir Charles Russell, V.C., M.P., honorary colonel of the regiment, Major-General Burnaby, M.P., Colonel Logan, C.B., and several other officers were on the platform. The commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Routledge, in his preliminary remarks to the regiment, said that he need not remind them that since the last distribution the number of the corps had been officially changed, and the regiment, which had been known for twenty years as the 46th Middlesex, was hereafter to be designated as the 23rd Middlesex. The change came at a very favourable time for the regiment, because at the end of the volunteer year in October it was in a more satisfactory and prosperous condition than ever it had been before. For the last three years the regiment had enrolled almost up to the maximum strength; and at the end of October last they had a strength of 788 men, against 784 at the corresponding period of last year. He was happy to say that out of the whole corps there were only seventeen non-efficients, and out of this number of men who had not conformed to the Government regulations at least one half had been unable to do so owing to illness or absence from England. Lieutenant-Colonel Routledge concluded his remarks by a reference to the Easter Monday review, the annual inspection, and other events of interest to the regiment. The Countess of Lytton then proceeded to deliver battalion and company prizes and marksmen's badges to the winners. After this ceremony, Sir C. Russell introduced Lord Lytton and General Sir F. Roberts, each of whom addressed the volunteers and other company present; the former speaking of the circumstances of the late Afghan War. Our Illustration represents the scene in the hall when the volunteers gave three cheers for General Roberts, which they did most heartily. A vote of thanks was given to the Countess of Lytton; and both her Ladyship and Mrs. Routledge were presented with medals to commemorate this interesting occasion.

THE WESTMINSTER PLAY

Rarely (says the *Globe*) has so large an audience been gathered within the walls of St. Peter's College dormitory at Westminster as that which assembled on Thursday week to witness the third and concluding representation of the "Andria" of Terence. The Dean of Westminster was in the chair, and was supported by Canon Liddon, Sir H. Parks, Sir Richard Harington, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, the Rev. H. S. Thompson (the reputed writer of the epilogue), the Right Hon. Hugh Childers, the Dean of Jersey, and a host of other gentlemen distinguished in the fields of theology, law, medicine, art, politics and literature. It was natural that before such an exceptional assembly the Queen's Scholars should have put forth their utmost histrionic ability, and should have endeavoured even to surpass their efforts of the previous nights. Happily for their continued success, the stress thus put upon them took a right direction, and instead of tempting them to exaggerate, induced them only to refine their respective rôles. The prologue and the epilogue again evoked the applause with which they were received on Tuesday night. The Prologue recorded the distinctions gained during the past year by old Westminsters, as well as the names of those who had been removed by death. The epilogue was, as it usually is, an Aristophanic piece of satire. Here is a brief outline of the proceedings drolly set forth, before a certain court of law, crowded with wigged and gowned advocates, witnesses, policemen, and common people. Pamphilus has been unseated on petition by the election judges, who have reported further that bribery has extensively prevailed in the constituency. Chremes, Simo, and Charinus are accordingly sent down as election commissioners, with Sosia as secretary. They hold their court and examine, first, Pamphilus; then Davus, his agent; then three persons, reported by Davus as having received bribes, namely, Crito, an ancient freeman of the city; Mysis, a married woman; and Byrrhia, a voter of the rougher order.

THE PIONEER OF CONVALESCENT HOMES.

We are continually receiving appeals for subscriptions in aid of charitable institutions, the insertion of which is prevented by the smallness of the space at our disposal. An endeavour must, however, be made to place before our readers one of exceptional claims, not only on account of its excellent management, but by reason of its having been the pioneer to the many valuable convalescent hospitals now in being. We allude to the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, situated at Walton-on-Thames, and having a branch for children at Kingston-hill. The measure of its usefulness may be gauged from the fact that during the present year alone 3500 poor persons recovering from illness have been restored to health at this institution, each having been maintained, free of charge, about four weeks. This good work has been going on for forty years. Its sphere is now being extended by the erection, at Bexhill, near St. Leonard's, of a home for convalescents needing sea air. Donations are urgently needed for the maintenance and enlargement of this praiseworthy institution; and a Christmas-box in the shape of a cheque could not be more worthily bestowed by the benevolent than by sending it to this charity, the secretary of which, Mr. Charles Holmes, may be addressed at the office of the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, 32, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W.

The Christmas number of "The Theatre" (Dickens and Evans, 26, Wellington-street, Strand) contrives, as Goldsworth would say, "a double debt to pay." It is at once a holiday periodical dealing specially with the pantomime season, full of pictures, photographs, plays, and poems, and it is also the first number of what will eventually be the history of the stage for 1881. The editor, after a year's experience, has now got his team well in hand, and has been encouraged to continue a magazine whose interest and usefulness to students of the stage increase with every number published.

We have also before us "Volumes 1 and 2 of The Theatre for 1880" (Dickens and Evans, 26, Wellington-street, Strand), in which will be found, in a light, handy, and agreeable form, a record of the dramatic events of the past year, with full casts and dates of all the new plays, over a dozen admirable cabinet photographs, as well as criticisms, essays, poems, and stories by the most popular writers of the day. The magazine, therefore, passes from the chrysalis stage of a periodical and becomes a handsome book for the drawing-room table.

HOME NEWS.

The Queen has appointed Marmaduke, Lord Herries, to be Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the East Riding of the county of York, in the room of the late Lord Wenlock.

Lady Burdett-Coutts on Monday distributed the prizes to the boys and girls of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage, at Strawberry Hill, Twickenham.

Mr. Richard Redgrave, R.A., has been named by the Queen a Companion of the Bath, in recognition of his eminent services to the Science and Art Department, South Kensington.

The Bath and West of England Society and Southern Counties Association have accepted the invitation of the Mayor and Town Council of Cardiff to hold the meeting of the society for 1882 in that town.

The Court of Common Council have voted two hundred guineas towards the Mansion House Fund on behalf of the sufferers by the Pen-y-graig Colliery explosion; the members of the Stock Exchange have transmitted subscriptions amounting to nearly £500; and the Fishmongers' Company have sent £105.

A deputation from the National Union of Elementary Teachers had an interview with Mr. Mundella last Saturday, and presented a memorial in favour of the recasting of the Education Code; while the question of pensions for aged teachers was also mentioned. Mr. Mundella promised that the representations made should have his best attention.

The Lord Mayor yesterday week remitted £500 to M. Tiza, the Minister-President of Hungary, making £1100 sent from the Mansion House in relief of the sufferers by the earthquakes at Agram. The more recent subscriptions include £105 from the Drapers' Company, £52 10s. from the Fishmongers' Company, and £151 from the members of the Stock Exchange.

Yesterday week the Earl of Dalhousie presented prizes to the students in the Dundee School of Science and Art.—Sir William Harcourt distributed the prizes at Derby School on Monday; and, in an address to the students, advocated the claims of classical learning. In the evening he presented the prizes at the local School of Art.—On the same evening Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, M.P., presented the prizes to the successful students of the School of Science and Art at Nottingham, and gave an address on the subject, tracing the progress of such schools since their practical initiation by the Prince Consort in 1851.

Mr. Morton Jones, of Carnarvon, was on Monday presented by the Mayor with a bronze medal of the Royal Humane Society, for saving a child from drowning in the Menai Straits.

Mr. Bedford has presented to the London Common Council a report of the proceedings of the City Lands Committee in regard to the Temple Bar Memorial, the cost of which is stated to be from £10,600 to £11,000.

After a good deal of opposition, the London School Board has agreed to a recommendation of the School Management Committee to appoint a French teacher in schools where French is taught as one of the specific subjects in accordance with the New Code.

Lord Derby has offered the Victoria University, Manchester, £2000 for a University scholarship, in part applied mathematics; the Cobden Club have offered a triennial prize in alternation with Oxford and Cambridge of £60 for an essay in some prescribed subject of political economy.

The committee of Lloyd's have voted the silver medal of the corporation to the executors of the late Lieutenant Heyland, R.N., of her Majesty's ship Minotaur, as they would have done to that officer had he lived, and the bronze medal of the corporation to Arthur Triggs, torpedo instructor on board the Minotaur, for their extraordinary efforts to save life at sea.

Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., has been elected chairman of the general committee of the City Liberal Club.—Mr. Cropper, the Liberal candidate for Kendal, was on the 16th inst. returned by a majority of 300 votes, in opposition to Mr. Harris, the Conservative candidate, and in succession to the late Mr. Whitwell.—The trial of the Evesham election petition ended the same day, when the Judges declared that the recriminatory case had failed, and that Mr. Hartland (Conservative) was entitled to the seat, subject to a scrutiny.

A two-days' conference of Poor-law guardians was opened at Leeds on Thursday week, under the presidency of Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., who, while expressing a strong approval of the principles of local self-government, was of opinion that the central authorities ought to counsel, inform, enlighten, and guide; and he believed that the local guardians would willingly and gratefully respond to such a policy. On Friday a paper was read on the education of pauper children, and resolutions were passed in favour of the boarding-out system and the educating of workhouse children in the public elementary schools. The next conference is to be at York.

The state apartments of Windsor Castle are open for public inspection upon the usual days during the absence of the Queen and Court at Osborne.

Mr. Hercules Campbell Yates, solicitor, of Macclesfield, son of the County Court Judge, was on Monday chosen Coroner for East Cheshire.

Mr. J. P. Murphy, Q.C., of the South-Eastern Circuit, has been appointed the Third Commissioner for the ensuing Winter Assizes, and will accompany Mr. Justice Denman on the Midland Circuit.

A new school lately erected by the School Board for London in Campbell-street, Maida-vale, was opened on Monday evening by Sir Charles Reed, M.P. The school is a large one, and built in the style generally adopted by the board.

The annual meeting of the Hospital Sunday Fund was held on Monday, when it was reported that last year's collection, amounting to £30,423, was the largest ever received, while the expenses of administration had diminished.

Sir Ughtred Kay-Shuttleworth has been elected a member of the London School Board, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Rev. J. Rodgers; and Mr. G. H. Kenrick to fill the vacancy at the Birmingham School Board caused by the resignation of Mr. R. W. Dale.

Mr. Frederick Harrison gave the last of the seventh series of free popular lectures at the Working Men's College, Great Ormond-street, last Saturday night, taking for his subject "The Place of History in Education." The chair was taken by Mr. Vernon Lushington, Q.C.

Judgment was given on Monday in the Exchequer Division in the action "The Attorney-General v. the Edison Telephone Company." This was an information filed by the Government alleging that the defendants had infringed the monopoly of the Postmaster-General over the telegraphs, and asking that royalties should be paid for the use of telephones by public companies. The Court decided in favour of the Crown.—In order to meet the convenience of the public, the Post Office is prepared to establish in any town a system of intercommunication by means of the telephone instrument as it has hitherto, for some years, been prepared to do by means of the A B C instrument. At the same time the Post Office holds itself ready to make arrangements for the establishment or continuance of systems of intercommunication by existing private companies.

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THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE for JANUARY contains the first chapters of a new novel, entitled THE COMET OF A SEASON. By Justin McCarthy, M.P., Author of "A History of Our Own Times," "Dear Lady Disdain," &c. SCIENCE NOTES. By W. Mattieu Williams, F.R.A.S., will also be continued monthly.

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IRISH SKETCHES.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

THE IRISH LAND LEAGUE AGITATION.

The reign of terror prevailing in many parts of Ireland from the effect of this agitation continues to extend and to become more intense from day to day. Fresh instances are everywhere reported of the systematic intimidation of persons belonging to different classes connected with agriculture, agents, bailiffs, farmers, cattle-dealers, and country tradesmen; and not only these, but the managers of public conveyances are forbidden to serve the needs of landowners placed under the ban of the League. There is, on the other hand, rather a decrease in the number of violent outrages on persons, and acts of malicious damage to cattle and other property, since public indignation has been aroused so generally against those atrocious crimes. The state of the country is, perhaps, not less alarming, for the influence of the Land League now appears so great as to supersede the ordinary functions of law and government. The Executive Council of the League has just issued a circular of instructions to its agents, which expresses a tardy disapproval of such practices as sending threatening letters, maiming cattle, and other monstrous acts, that must rather "alienate the sympathy of outside observers."

It is unfortunate that, notwithstanding these commendable professions, the Land League agitation is still attended with terribly frequent instances of wicked acts of wilful injury, sometimes of extreme cruelty, as well as the unjust and dishonest repudiation of rent. A few days ago a nocturnal outrage was perpetrated at Oory, on the property of Mr. H. O. Browne, of Balla. A man named Boyle and his wife were taken out of their beds, dragged along the road, and their hair was cropped off by a large party of men. The only cause assigned is that Boyle pointed out the different holdings on the estate to Mr. Routledge, the agent, after being previously threatened. One night last week a serious riot took place at Irishtown, four miles from Claremorris, and seven from Tuam. A number of persons attempted forcibly to enter a farm from which the tenant had been evicted, but were opposed by the police. They, however, persisted in their attempt, and attacked the constabulary, who immediately fired on them, wounding four, and two were arrested. Another night, an armed party of men with blackened faces visited the houses of several farmers on an estate near Kilmabogue, and threatened them with death if they paid more than Griffith's valuation. Shots were fired outside three houses. A Dublin merchant has been summoned before the Clare Central Land League at its next sitting to answer for a harsh case of eviction that occurred on his property in September, 1879. Failing to do so, it has been signified to him that effectual means will be taken to "Boycott" himself and his farm. At the Tuam Sessions the solicitor for two men who had claims for compensation for malicious injuries declared that they would forfeit their right to any compensation, as, owing to the great intimidation and terrorism that prevailed, they could not go on with their application in the face of the public disapprobation. They renounced their legal and just claim to large compensation sums. At Waterford Mr. Justice Barry delivered judgment in the application made on behalf of the Crown that the New Ross murder case might be postponed, as it was believed Land League influence had been brought to bear on the jury. His Lordship granted the application. These are but some of the more recent tokens of the disturbed condition of the country. At the Cork Assizes a number of persons charged with being concerned in the Moybella outrage, in the county of Kerry, were acquitted and discharged. It was alleged that the accused formed part of an armed band who attacked the house of two brothers named Horgan and beat them, in consequence of an eviction having taken place. The defence raised was an alibi. At the same assizes the trial of Mr. Healy, M.P., and Mr. Walsh took place before Mr. Justice Fitzgerald. They were charged with attempting to intimidate a farmer, named Manning, near Bantry, to give up possession of a holding, from which a former tenant had been evicted. Manning, however, declared now at the trial that it was advice, and not menace, which was used towards him. The jury, after an hour's deliberation, acquitted the prisoners. In another case, William Riordan, a tenant-farmer, was convicted of taking forcible possession of a farm. The defence was that he was put on the land by an armed party, who made him swear not to surrender the farm. Sentence was postponed. Nine persons, charged with riotous assembling and assaulting a sub-sheriff of county Tipperary while he was engaged in effecting an eviction, were found guilty at the Waterford Assizes.

Attention has been directed to the case of Mr. W. Bence Jones, an English gentleman owning large property at Lisselane, in County Cork, and residing there some time every year. He is a liberal and improving landlord, who never had any disputes with his tenants, but he had written some letters and magazine articles upon the Land League, and was consequently "Boycotted," or excommunicated, by the agency of that association. Last week Mr. Bence Jones sent thirty head of cattle and thirty sheep to Cork for shipment to Bristol by the Cork Steam-Packet Company's steamer Xenia. When it was discovered by the other shippers that Mr. Bence Jones's cattle were about to be taken on board, they waited in a body upon the directors of the company, and said that if these cattle were taken they would withdraw their cattle and would ship no more by the company. The directors thereupon refused Mr. Bence Jones's cattle, which were driven out of the yard and strayed about the quay, no one being found willing to take charge of them. The police collected the cattle, which were driven to the premises of the Great Southern and Western Railway Company for dispatch to Dublin. It is stated that none of the dealers would supply fodder for the cattle. They remained all night and next day in the cattle-yard of the Dublin and Glasgow Steam-Packet Company at North Wall. Mr. Norris Goddard, one of the organisers of the Boycott Relief Expedition, then, on behalf of Mr. Bence Jones, put himself in communication with some of the companies. He had an interview with Mr. Watson, of the City of Dublin Company, of a satisfactory nature, and the result was that, without the least trouble or opposition, the sheep were sent to Liverpool, and the cattle were afterwards shipped off to Holyhead. Mr. Bence Jones has written to the *Times* to explain his position. He says that he has lived at Lisselane since 1840, has spent £25,000 in improvements, and pays £25 a week in wages, and spends a similar sum on other farm expenses. Hitherto a good feeling had prevailed between him and his tenants, but at the beginning of this month his tenants received notices threatening them if they paid more than Griffith's valuation, and a threatening notice was stuck on his door, and a grave dug on his own. Because he would not accept the valuation he has been "Boycotted," and can neither sell nor buy.

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland have adopted resolutions for expelling all members of the Land League from the order, and for the appointment of a committee to assist all Orangemen and loyal Protestants who are suffering from the persecution of the League. The committee are now about to take measures for the relief of Mr. Bence Jones. They further announce that applications from various quarters for arms have led to an arrangement with manufacturing firms in England for the supply of suitable weapons, some of which have been already received and distributed in the South and West. Lord Rossmore presided over a meeting of Orangemen and county magistrates at Monaghan, when resolutions were passed repudiating the doctrines of the Land League, as intended to bring about the separation of Great Britain from Ireland, and setting forth the principles which should characterise an acceptable Land Bill. It was also resolved that an anti-league should be formed, and that a committee should be appointed to draw up a form by which all those who signed it bind themselves to support each other with purse and person if assailed by the present unlawful organisation of the Land League. There were about five thousand persons present. A similar meeting has been held at Portadown, Lord Mandeville and Mr. Maxwell Close being present. A Land League meeting was to have been held at Loughgall, near Portadown. A large number of tenant farmers had assembled in a field; and the speakers were about to address them from the platform, when an opposing force with fifes and drums rushed into the field and into the midst of the crowd, scattering them in all directions, and tearing the platform to pieces. The farmers adjourned to another field, and the leaders of the hostile mob prevailed upon their followers not to molest them any more. The meeting was then proceeded with. There was a large force of police present.

Lord Kenmare, it is stated, is about to leave Ireland in consequence of the condition of his neighbourhood. He has lately built a new house on his estate, and employed a skilled carpenter to finish some windows, to the exclusion of local workmen. He received notice that if this man was not immediately dismissed the house would be burnt down. Last year, in consequence of the distress, Lord Kenmare borrowed £20,000 from the Board of Works in order to give employment to his people.

At a meeting of the Privy Council at Dublin Castle on Saturday it was decided to proclaim the Queen's County, thereby prohibiting all Land League meetings within that portion of Ireland. A meeting on Sunday at Cullohill, near Durrow, Queen's County, was stopped by the magistrates, with a military force at hand. It is stated that, with a view to meet any contingency that may arise in Ireland, the Government have determined upon sending additional troops to that country within the course of the next few days. The first battalion of Scots Guards left London for Dublin on Monday. Instructions from the Horse Guards have been issued to Colonel Sargent, commanding the 67th Brigade Dépôt, at Birr, to patrol nightly forty soldiers, under command of an officer, until order is restored in the district. The nightly patrolling bodies of the constabulary have been doubled.

The Irish Government has issued two circulars of instructions to the constabulary. The first relates to the cases of persons taking or being put in possession of premises from which they have been evicted. It instructs the constabulary to take immediate steps against such persons, and informs them that they will be considered responsible for outrages committed upon persons taking land from which others have been evicted. The second Circular states that outrages by night patrols are discreditable to the constabulary, and the sub-inspector of each county is directed to pay frequent nightly and early morning visits to his out-stations.

Our Illustrations of this unhappy subject this week comprise some additional Sketches by our Special Artist in Ireland, Mr. Wallis Mackay, including those of "Parnell's Country," noticed in another page. We also give two views of the ancient ruin of Lough Mask Castle, in Mayo, from Sketches by Colonel Bedingfield, R.A., lately commanding the military force sent to protect the volunteer harvestmen on Captain Boycott's farm. The house of Captain Boycott is but two hundred yards distant from the ruined old Castle, but is hidden by the trees to the left hand in our view. The distant mountains beyond the lake are those of Joyce's Country, Connemara. A page of figures and groups of the peasantry in Westmeath, with the "murder memorial" of a rustic tragedy that occurred there in 1857, is supplied by Mr. J. Proctor, another of our Special Artists. The opposite page of "Dublin Sketches," by Mr. H. Furniss, contains a variety of street scenes, one of which, be it observed, belongs to past history, not to the contemporary social and political crisis. The readers of Sir C. Gavan Duffy's "Young Ireland," which relates the proceedings at the trial of O'Connell in January, 1844, will have been struck by his mention (page 407) of the corrupt system formerly practised in the selection of special jurors for Crown prosecutions. "It was known," he says, "that a small knot of broken-down citizens, of safe politics, were enabled to live by this trade. They were always in Court; their confederates in the Sheriff's Office and the Crown Offices knew they were to be relied upon; and they went into the jurors' room to earn the fee paid in such cases with as much regularity as the Sheriff's bailiffs took their places outside." There must be some truth in this: for the highest of the English Judges in 1844, Lord Denman, speaking in the House of Lords on the appeal against the conviction of O'Connell, declared that trial by jury, so conducted, was "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare." We wish it to be observed, however, that the system above described has since been entirely reformed; and there is no reason to doubt that the special jury which is to try Mr. Parnell will be fairly selected. The old class of venal and subservient special jurymen, referred to by Sir C. Gavan Duffy, were called "Four-Court guinea-pigs," alluding to the amount of their regular fee, and to the well-known "Four Courts," on the Dublin Quays—a very fine range of buildings, erected towards the end of the last century, where all the highest judicial business of Ireland is transacted. The other Sketches are those of different groups of loungers in the streets and on the quays, who appear to be under the influence of strong political excitement. Some of them are listening to one reading a newspaper, which may give the report of one of the trials of subordinate Land League agents who have within the last week or two been brought before the provincial Assizes.

"HOLDING THE MIRROR UP TO NATURE."

The construction of that formidable effigy of the human figure which is called a "scare-crow," to do duty, in the absence of real men and boys, by warning off the birds from depredations on the farmer's fields, may exercise no small amount of artistic skill. It may, of course, be performed in a rude, clumsy, uninventive style, by merely sticking up a coat and hat, or even a few loose fluttering rags of cast-off wearing apparel, with no semblance of a substantial body and limbs. We believe that the crows and all other winged creatures, against whose intrusion this curious guardian of rural property is meant to provide, are far too wise to be so easily deceived for more than a few days or hours. It is quite worth while, at any rate, to try and make the thing as life-like as possible; and such is here the attempt of a zealous and faithful agricultural labourer, whom Mr. F. Dadd's drawing has caught for us, busy at this work in the field. He considers, we see, that even the featureless visage of a scare-crow ought not to lack the ornament of an imitation of hair; and for this he substitutes the flowering grass that he has plucked, or flowers taken from the hedge-side. It will neither be "a thing of beauty," nor will its continuance be "a joy for ever" to feathered or unfeathered bipeds. The dog, for his part, does not know what to make of such an apparition. In his labours, however, to give it the appearance of life, we may commend the rustic Pygmalion, or Tatterdemalion, for "holding the mirror up to Nature."

THE COURT.

On the eve of her Majesty's departure from Windsor a Council was held at the castle, there being present Earl Spencer, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the Earl of Kenmare, and the Right Hon. Sir William Harcourt. Mr. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre was sworn in a member of the Privy Council. The Queen gave audiences to the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Earl Spencer, and the Earl of Kenmare; and knighted Mr. Walter Watson Hughes, of South Australia, Dr. Edward Burrowes Sinclair, and Mr. Edward Baines, late Member of Parliament for Leeds, at which ceremony Princess Beatrice was present. Lord Thurlow and Captain Walter Campbell kissed hands on their appointment as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, drove to the Albert Institute, in Windsor, and inspected the statue of the Prince Consort presented by Mr. Richardson-Gardner, which had been unveiled by Princess Christian. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson-Gardner were presented to the Queen.

The following were entertained at dinner by her Majesty:—Prince and Princess Christian, Princesses Augusta Victoria and Caroline Matilda of Schleswig-Holstein, the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone, Lord and Lady Frederick Cavendish, Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Sir H. Ponsonby, the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Lady Waterpark, the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, the Lord Chamberlain, Lord Thurlow, General Viscount Bridport, Major-General Dillon, Colonel Sir John Carstairs M'Neill, Captain Walter Campbell, and Captain F. I. Edwards.

Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice, who arrived at Osborne last Saturday afternoon, attended Divine service on Sunday, performed at the house by the Rev. Canon Connor.

The Queen received with deep regret the intelligence of the death of the Duchess of Westminster.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have during the week entertained at Marlborough House the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Princess Louise of Lorne, Prince Leopold, and Prince Christian. Their Royal Highnesses attended Divine service on Sunday. The Prince has been photographed by Mr. Massano, of Old Bond-street. The American midgets and "Commodore" Foot and Miss Jennie Quigley, by desire of the Prince and Princess, have been presented to their Royal Highnesses and to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh at Marlborough House.

The Duke of Edinburgh was in his place amongst the first violins at the first concert of this (the ninth) season of the Royal Amateur Orchestral Society held last Saturday evening at the Albert Hall.

Princess Frederica of Hanover and Baron von Pawel-Rammingen have arrived from Paris.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

The marriage of Mr. Archibald Lennox Napier, late Grenadier Guards, eldest son of Sir Robert J. Milliken Napier, Bart., of Milliken, Renfrewshire, with Mary Allison Dorothy Fairbairn, youngest daughter of Sir Thomas Fairbairn, Bart., took place last week at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. Mr. F. C. Fergusson, Scots Guards, was best man. The bridesmaids were Miss Fairbairn, her sister; Miss Napier, sister of the bridegroom; Miss Elizabeth Newton, Miss Gertrude Harter, Miss Edith Wayles, and Miss Frances Fairbairn, cousin of the bride. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of white Venetian velvet and satin, trimmed with embroidery and fringes of pearls, and Alençon lace; over a chaplet of orange-blossoms a tulle veil fastened by diamond stars. Her jewels were a diamond tiara and diamond necklace, the gifts of her father and mother. The bridesmaids were attired alike in short costumes of a dark shade of ponceau plush and cashmere; small plush bonnets ornamented with humming-birds, and "mousquetaire" gloves. Each lady wore a pearl and coral brooch, with the initials of the bride and bridegroom, the gift of the bridegroom. Lady Fairbairn, who accompanied the bride, wore a dress of dark prune velvet bordered with broad feather trimmings, bonnet and muff to match. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Adam Henderson Fairbairn, Vicar of Waltham, Berks, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, Vicar of St. Paul's. Sir Thomas and Lady Fairbairn gave the breakfast at their residence in Wilton-crescent. The newly wedded couple started for Paris on their way to the south of France. The bride's travelling-dress was of sapphire-blue velvet trimmed with skunk, with mantle, bonnet, and muff *en suite*. The bridal presents were numerous, and included valued gifts from the tenants and servants of Milliken and Brambridge.

Marriages are arranged between Count F. V. Lützow, secretary to the Austrian Embassy, eldest son of his Excellency Count Lützow, and Mdlle. Anna de Bornemann, daughter of the Minister of Mecklenburg in Paris, and niece of Count and Countess Batthyany; and between Captain E. W. Haywood, of the Queen's Own Worcestershire Regiment, and Ada, third daughter of Sir Henry Allsopp, Bart., of Hindlip Hall, Worcester.

A conference upon bread reform, convened by the Bread Reform League, was held yesterday week at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor presiding. Miss Yates gave an address upon the "Principles of Bread Reform," in which she stated that it was as impossible for children to grew strong and healthy upon white bread as it was for two and two to make five. To make flour white the larger proportion of the nourishing properties of wheat had to be rejected, and the phosphate and flesh-forming qualities were lost to a very serious extent. Among the other speakers were Professor Henslow, Professor Church, Dr. Bartlett, and Mr. S. Morley, M.P.

A superb photograph album, of royal quarto size, which has just been published by Messrs. T. J. Smith, Son, and Co., bound in coloured plush, calf with inlaid pattern, morocco, gilt or embossed, or russia leather, is called the "Album Lingua Floris." It is adorned with twelve very beautiful chromolithographs of floral wreaths, designed from nature, besides an illuminated titlepage, in which all the various flowers are introduced. Each design, interpreted by the conventional "Language of Flowers," to which there is a key, has a significant emblematic meaning. There is space for one, two, or three portraits of friends in each of the floral pages, besides the ordinary pages, which are fitted as in other photograph books.

OBITUARY.

THE DUCHESS OF WESTMINSTER.

Her Grace, Constance Gertrude, wife of the Duke of Westminster, K.G., died on the 19th inst. The Duchess was born June 16, 1834, fifth daughter of George Granville, second Duke of Sutherland, K.G., by Harriet Elizabeth Georgiana, his wife, daughter of George, sixth Earl of Carlisle, K.G., and was consequently sister of the late Duchess of Argyll, of the late Lady Blantyre, and of the present Duchess of Leinster. Her Grace married, April 28, 1852, Hugh Lupus, Duke of Westminster, K.G., by whom she leaves a numerous family, the eldest son, Victor Alexander, Earl Grosvenor, and the eldest daughter, Elizabeth Harriet, Marchioness of Ormonde.

THE EARL OF CRAWFORD AND BALCARRES.

The Right Hon. Alexander William-Crawford Lindsay, Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, &c., in the Peerage of Scotland, and Baron Wigan, of Haigh Hall, in the county of Lancaster, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, whose death at the Villa Enalmira, Florence, is just announced, was the male heir of one of the most ancient and distinguished families in Scotland, and had illustrated the history of the several noble lines from which he descended in one of the most interesting and charming books ever published, "The Lives of the Lindsays." He was also author of "Letters on Egypt, Edom, and the Holy Land," "Sketches of the History of Christian Art," and various other works, besides contributions of considerable value to genealogical and antiquarian literature. His Lordship was born Oct. 16, 1812, the eldest son of James, seventh Earl of Balcarres, to whom the earldom of Crawford (the first on the Union Roll of Scotland) was confirmed by the House of Lords in 1848, and he succeeded to all the honours at his father's death, Dec. 15, 1869. The Earl's mother was the Hon. Maria Margaret Frances Pennington, daughter and heiress of John, first Lord Muncaster. He married, July 23, 1846, Margaret, eldest daughter of Lieutenant-General James Lindsay, of Balcarres, and leaves issue, one son, James-Ludovic, Lord Lindsay, M.P. for Wigan, now Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, who was born July 28, 1847, and married, July 22, 1869, Emily Florence, second daughter of Colonel the Hon. Edward Wilbraham, by whom he has several children. Lord Crawford leaves also six daughters, Alice Frances, wife of Mr. George Bramston Eyre; Margaret Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Lewis Ashhurst Majendie, of Hedingham Castle, Essex; Mary Susan Félicie, wife of the Hon. Frederick George L. Wood; Mabel Marian; Anne Catharine Sybil; and Jane Evelyn.

SIR A. CAMPBELL, BART.

Sir Alexander Campbell, second Baronet, of Barcaldine and Glenure, county Argyll, J. P., Serjeant-at-Arms in the Queen's household, late Captain Argyll and Bute Militia, died on the 11th inst. at Wimbledon. He was born June 15, 1819, the eldest son of Sir Duncan Campbell, Captain Scots Fusilier Guards, and A.D.C. to his cousin, General Campbell, at Talavera, by Elizabeth Dreghorn, his wife, daughter of James Dennistoun, Esq., of Dennistoun, county Dumbarton, and he derived his descent from a branch of the Campbells of Glenorchy. Sir Alexander succeeded to the baronetcy, created Sept. 30, 1831, at the decease of his father, April 2, 1842. He married, in 1855, Harriette, daughter of Admiral Henry Collier, and leaves a son and heir, now Sir Duncan Alexander Campbell, third Baronet, born Dec. 4, 1856, and other issue.

SIR C. E. B. KENNEDY, BART.

Sir Charles Edward Bayly Kennedy, second Baronet, of Johnstown Kennedy, in the county of Dublin, died on the 4th inst. He was born Feb. 13, 1820, the eldest son of Sir John Kennedy (who was created a Baronet in 1836), by Maria, his wife, daughter of Mr. William Beauman, of Dublin, and succeeded to the title at his father's death, Oct. 15, 1848. Sir Edward was a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for the counties of Dublin, Kildare, and Waterford, and served as High Sheriff of the last-named county in 1843. He married, Oct. 19, 1854, Lady Augusta Pery, sister of William, second Earl of Limerick, and leaves two sons, of whom the elder, now Sir John Charles Kennedy, third Baronet, born in 1856, married, in 1879, Sydney, daughter of Sir James Macaulay Higginson, K.C.B.

MR. CHILDE, OF KINLET.

Mr. William Lacon Childe, of Kinlet, Shropshire, and of Kyre, Worcestershire, J.P. and D.L., within a few weeks of attaining the age of ninety-five. He was born in 1786, the only son of Mr. William Baldwyn (who assumed the surname and arms of Childe only), by Annabella, his wife, second daughter of Sir Charlton Leighton, Bart., and was grandson of Mr. Charles Baldwyn, of Aqualake, M.P. for Salop, by his marriage with Catherine, the elder daughter and coheir of Mr. Childe, of Kinlet. Mr. William Lacon Childe was educated at Harrow, being contemporary there with the eminent men of the last generation—Lord Byron, Lord Palmerston, Sir Robert Peel, and others—and was afterwards at Christ Church, Oxford. He was elected M.P. for Wenlock, in the Conservative interest, in 1821, and sat for that borough till 1826. In 1828 he served as High Sheriff for Shropshire. He married, in 1807, Harriet, second daughter of Mr. William Cludde, of Orleton, Salop, and leaves a son and successor, Mr. William Lacon Childe, who is seventy years of age.

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge has made a further grant of £4000 towards fitting up St. Katherine's Training College, Tottenham, for female pupil-teachers.

At the Guildhall, yesterday week, Lord Chief Justice Coleridge was presented with the chain of office worn by the late Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, and which was his property. It is intended that the chain shall be worn by all succeeding holders of the office of Lord Chief Justice of England in turn.

CHESS.

G N (Newcastle, Natal).—The game has many interesting points, and it shall appear in due course.

H W H (Manchester).—It is frequently the case that, in three-move problems, White effects mate in two moves, against weak defences. The solver is required to discover the best defence, as well as the best attack.

E L G (Blackwater).—Your solution of Mr. J. P. Tayler's problem was correct, but its acknowledgment has been crowded out until now.

Correct Solutions of Problem No. 1915, received from M Cumming (Augusta, Ga., U.S.A.); of No. 1916 from Orima and Va (U.S.); and of No. 1917 from Orima. The Canadian Prize Problem has been solved by Orima; and the Suimate dedicated to Count Pongracz has been solved by Va (U.S.) and M Cumming (Augusta, Ga., U.S.A.).

Correct Solutions of Problem No. 1918 received from W Burr, James Atkinson, F W Humphries, H J Grant, Franklin Institute, N M Carrig, Emile Frau, Waldenburg, and Lincopensis (Sweden).

Correct Solutions of Problem No. 1919 received from P S Shenele, G C Baxter, A C, Dr H W Hill, Frank E Purchas, D A (Dublin), H de Groot, A W Hale, Dr N W Holmes, W M Curtis, Hereward, W J Eggleston, J Tucker, James Atkinson, Emile Frau, and Waldenburg.

Correct Solutions of Problems Nos. 1920 and 1921 received from H B, P S Shenele, Frank E Purchas, D A (Dublin), E L G, M H Moorhouse, Norman Rumbelow, James Dobson, East Marden, Shadforth, Alpha, A C, E Louden, J W W, Cant, Jupiter Junior, D Templeton, R Jessop, M O'Halloran, Nerina, An Old Hand, T Greenbank, Elsie, C Oswald, H Blacklock, E Elsbury, L Sharswood, E Sharswood, D W K, R Gray, R L Dyke, S Farrant, Ben Nevis, R Ingersoll, G Fosbrooke, A Kentish Man, C Darragh, R H Brooks, Otto Fulder, D Templeton, and C S Coxe.

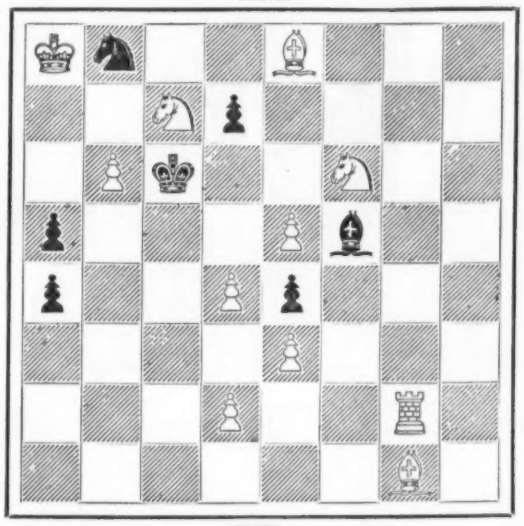
Correct Solutions of Problem No. 1920 received from G C Baxter, Emile Frau, W J Eggleston, J Bumstead, Mars, Templar L Down, H de Groot, Z Ingold, Smutch, Lulu, Frank Littleboy, Underwood, E P Vulliamy, Portobello, Julia Short, W T (Ffynone Club, Swansea), W Burr, J Perez Ventoso, F Gentry, James H Symington, J W Waugh, Joseph Moore, H W Hill, W Scott, Insignificant Pawn, C Edmundson, Dr F St, George Neuer (Heidelberg), James Putney, George Corrie (R M A), and Waldenburg.

Correct Solutions of Problem No. 1921 received from Fred Littleboy, Sudbury Suffolk, V S Otley, and W F R (Swansea).

PROBLEM No. 1923.

By S. H. Thomas.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

A CHRISTMAS *PARTIE*.

Last week we presented to our readers a view of the humorous side of modern chess, selecting our examples from the works of problem composers, and we should have pursued the subject this week among the players but for good cause. It happens, unfortunately, that, although humour is by no means a rare quality among chessplayers, it is one that cannot be exercised in their games, while the verbal quips with which some of them are wont to enliven themselves over the board have no special relation to chess. They are chessplayers' jokes, and worthy of the admiration of all chessplayers, but they would be equally appropriate to the occasion if they were conceived and expressed at cards or billiards, and, consequently, do not concern us at present. There is, in truth, no comic side to practical chess. It is not without its humours, in the Shakspearean sense; but these spring from the idiosyncracies of the players, and not from the game they are playing. As in practical jokes, the fun of practical chess is all on one side, and that is not the side of the man who chiefly contributes to it. Many games of chess have been contested—or, rather let us say, played—amid the smiles and even open laughter of the spectators, and sometimes of one, but never by any chance of the two, players. One of these is, invariably, unwilling to believe that his part in the joke is a fair subject for laughter. He intends no joke, therefore there is none. As one illustration is worth a page of argument, we quote here a case in point—a game in which Mr. I. O. Howard Taylor, of Norwich, one of the most accomplished amateurs of our time, played the White pieces:—

1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	4. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to B 4th
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	5. Kt takes P	P to K B 3rd
3. B to B 4th	Kt takes P		

At this point White announced mate in eight moves, and proceeded to bring down his adversary, as Bob Acres puts it, "at a long shot," to the great amusement of the spectators. It will, however, surprise no one, certainly no chessplayer, to learn that Black was unable to see the jest or to join in the laughter it provoked. But, if practical chess is deficient in examples of broad fun, as undoubtedly it is, it possesses qualities which, without underrating the value of humour, may be regarded as superior to it. We are not going to dwell upon these, in either a philosophic or satiric spirit. Philosophy and Satire are both good things in themselves, but this is not the season for either. No one could be a Philosopher, and no one, we hope, would be a Satirist at a Christmas party. At this, our Christmas party for chessplayers, we purpose illustrating, from practical chess, two of the superior qualities to which we have already referred—Readiness to discern opportunity and Promptness to seize it ere it flies, the most useful accomplishments a man can possess for success in the Battle of Life. In presenting these games we shall not trouble the student with notes to the moves. If there is any Zoilus among our readers he can seek for the demerits of the players and be happy, if he can, when he finds them. The majority, like ourselves, will be content to admire and applaud. Let everyone please himself is a maxim embodying good morals; and, if it were not Christmas-time, we should add, good Philosophy also.

Herr Steinitz giving the large odds of Queen's Rook to an Amateur.

(*Queen's Knight Opening.*)

White (Herr S.)	Black (Mr. A.)	White (Herr S.)	Black (Mr. A.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	8. P to Q 4th	B to Kt 5th
2. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	9. B to Q Kt 5th	K to B sq
3. P to K B 4th	P takes P	10. Castles	Kt to K 4th
4. Kt to K B 3rd	B to Kt 5th	11. Kt takes Kt	B takes Q
5. Kt to Q 5th	B to R 4th	12. Kt to Kt 6th (ch)	R P takes Kt
6. Kt takes K P	P to Q 3rd	13. Kt takes P.	Mate.
7. P to Q B 3rd	B to Kt 3rd		

Played between Mr. S. S. Boden and Herr Schulder.

(*Philidor's Defence.*)

White (Herr S.)	Black (Mr. B.)	White (Herr S.)	Black (Mr. B.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	9. P to K B 4th	B to Q 2nd
2. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	10. B to K 3rd	Castles
3. P to Q B 3rd	P to K B 4th	11. Kt to Q 2nd	R to K sq
4. B to B 4th	Kt to K B 3rd	12. Q to B 3rd	B to K B 4th
5. P to Q 4th	P takes K P	13. Castles (Q R)	P to Q 4th
6. P takes K P	P takes Kt	14. B takes Q P	Q takes P (ch)
7. P takes Kt	Q takes P	15. P takes Q	B to R 6th.
8. P takes P	Kt to Q B 3rd		Mate.

A *bonne-bouche* for our finale. One of ten games played without seeing the boards, and simultaneously, by Mr. J. H. Blackburne, at Kidderminster.

(*Centre Gambit.*)

White (Mr. B.)	Black (Amateur).	White (Mr. B.)	Black (Amateur).
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. P takes K P	Q takes P
2. P to Q 4th	P takes P	14. Castles	P to K R 3rd
3. B to B 4th	P to Q 3rd	15. B to K 8th	B to K 3rd
4. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	16. R takes Kt	P takes R
5. P to Q B 3rd	P takes P	17. R to Q 7th (ch)	B takes R
6. Q Kt takes P	Kt to K 4th	18. Q to B 7th (ch)	K to Q 3rd
7. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt	19. Q takes B (ch)	K to B 4th
8. B tks K B P (ch)	K to K 2nd	20. B to K 3rd (ch)	K to Kt 5th
9. B to Kt 5th (ch)	Kt to B 3rd	21. Q takes Kt P (ch)	K to R 4th
10. Q to K R 5th	P to B 3rd	22. P to Kt 4th (ch)	B takes P
11. Q R to Q sq	Q to R 4th	23. B to Kt 6th (ch)	P takes B
12. P to K B 4th	Q to B 4th	24. Q takes R.	Mate.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of the late Mr. John Lewis Eyre (commonly called Count Eyre), who died on the 11th ult., at 25, Manchester-square, was proved on the 10th inst. in the Principal Registry by the two executors—namely, the Most Rev. Charles Eyre, Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow, and the Right Hon. John Francis, Lord Arundell of Wardour, the estate being sworn under £400,000. The testator makes various specific bequests of pictures, books, plate, articles of virtû, and ornamental furniture, &c., likewise of jewellery; and bequeaths an annuity of £500 to his grandniece, Lady Arundell of Wardour; a pecuniary legacy and all his real and personal estate (except what is otherwise disposed of by his will) unto the Most Rev. Charles Eyre and Lord Arundell of Wardour, upon trust, to purchase a sufficient sum of Consols to answer the annuity to Lady Arundell, and to hold one half part of the residue for the Most Rev. Charles Eyre, and the other half part in trust for such persons as the Most Rev. Charles Eyre and Lord Arundell of Wardour shall jointly appoint; and, in default of appointment, in trust for all his children (other than the said Charles Eyre) living at his death, equally.

The will (dated April 3, 1880) with a codicil (dated Sept. 3 following) of the late Right Hon. Sir Alexander James Edmund Cockburn, Bart., P.C., G.C.B., Lord Chief of Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, has just been proved by Mr. G. Cockburn and Dr. Gill, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £40,000. The testator leaves legacies to his executors, members of his family, and friends, and appoints Captain Cockburn residuary legatee.

The will of the late Right Hon. Sir Fitzroy Edward Kelly, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, has just been proved by Miss Eveline Agnes Kelly, the daughter, the Hon. Robert St. John Fitzwalter Butler, and Dr. Henry Marshall, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £60,000. The testator gives souvenirs, to be selected by his said daughter, to each of his grandchildren, the children of his deceased daughter Mrs. Bromley, besides giving special directions as to some plate and jewellery to be set apart for their benefit; and he states that, having provided for his grandchildren by their mother's marriage settlement, it was unnecessary to make any further provision for them. All the residue of his estate, both real and personal, he devises and bequeaths unto his surviving daughters, share and share alike. The will, which is all in the testator's handwriting, bears date March 25, 1876.

The will (dated Aug. 17, 1875) with two codicils (dated July 5 and Aug. 11, 1880) of the Hon. Alfred Henry Thesiger, one of the Lord Justices of the Court of Appeal, late of No. 30, Stanhope-gardens, South Kensington, who died on Oct. 20 last, at No. 5, South Eaton-place, Eaton-square, was proved on the 9th inst. by the Hon. Mrs. Henrietta Thesiger, the widow, Lord Chelmsford, the brother, William Frederick Higgins, and Ludlow Handcock, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £80,000. The testator gives to his wife his plate, pictures, furniture, household effects, horses and carriages, an immediate legacy of £1000, and a further legacy of £6000; to his sister, the Hon. Mary Lincoln Thesiger, £3000; to each of his other brothers and sisters, £2000; to his brother-in-law Ludlow Handcock, £500; and the residue of his property upon trust for his wife for life, and then for his children, if any; but no child is to take more than £30,000. In the event of the testator leaving no children, which we believe was the case, he divides the residue of his property, after the death of his wife, into twenty-five parts, and gives nine parts to his brother, Lord Chelmsford, two parts to his sister, Mary Lincoln, and the other fourteen parts between his brothers, Charles Wemyss and Edward Peirson, and his sisters, the Hon. Mrs. Augusta Higgins and the Hon. Lady Julia Selina Inglis.

The will (dated July 19, 1879) of Mr. Thomas Elliott Price, formerly of No. 48, Chancery-lane, but late of Spring Lawn, Woodbury Down, Stoke Newington, who died on the 9th ult., was proved on the 8th inst. by Charles Furber, and Alfred Price, the son, the surviving executors, the personal estate being sworn under £200,000. The testator bequeaths £300 to the Parochial School, St. Andrew's, Holborn; £200 to the National Sunday and Infant Schools, St. James's, Holloway; £100 each to the National School, Baldwin's-gardens, the Church Missionary Society, the London City Mission, the Mackenzie Nurses' Home, St. James's, Holloway, the London Female Penitentiary, No. 166, Pentonville-road, the New Lecture Hall, St. James's, Holloway, King's College Hospital, the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, and the Goldsmith's Benevolent Institution; an annuity of £400 for life to his daughter Eliza; £30,000 each to his son Walter and his daughters Emily and Florence; and numerous bequests to relatives, friends, and servants according to length of service. The residue of his real and personal estate he gives to his son Alfred.

The will (dated Sept. 13, 1879) of Mr. James Bentley, J.P., D.L., formerly treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, late of Wood Green Park, Cheshunt, Herts, who died on Oct. 26 last, was proved on the 7th inst. by James Dixon, Alfred Taylor, and John Tindall Harris, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £140,000. The testator earnestly wishes to be buried in the vault in the churchyard of St. Margaret Roothing, Essex, with his wife and sister-in-law; and if he is so buried, he leaves £100 to the Rector of the said parish for his own use; £100 to the Rector and churchwardens for the parochial schools, and another £100 for the poor of such parish. He also leaves £2000 to be distributed among the charitable, curative, or educational institutions of the borough of Scarborough, to be selected by his executors; £1000 New Three per Cents each to the Vicar and churchwardens of the parishes of St. Mary, Cheshunt, and St. James, Cheshunt, the income of which, subject to some other payments charged thereon, is annually to be given away by them about Christmas time to or for the benefit of the poor of their respective parishes; £1000 to the general funds of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and £100 to the Samaritan Fund of the same Hospital; £1000 to the Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution; £500 each to Christ's Hospital, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Church Missionary Society, the Clergy Orphan School, the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, the Seamen's Hospital, the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum, and the Sailors' Orphan Girls' School and Home; £200 each to St. Thomas's Hospital and the Marine Society; and £100 to St. Luke's Hospital for Lunatics. Among the very numerous legacies and annuities to relatives, executors, servants, and others, may be mentioned the gift of £24,000 upon trust for the eight children of his deceased nephew, Francis Davison. The residue of his real and personal estate, to the extent of £1500, he gives to his executors for their own use; but all over that amount is to be distributed by them among his kinsfolk, without regard to consanguinity, at their absolute and uncontrolled discretion. The deceased served as High Sheriff for Hertfordshire in 1860.

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"When all things were made, none was made better than Tobacco! to be a lone man's Companion, a bachelor's Friend, a hungry man's Food, a sad man's Cordial, a wakeful man's Sleep, and a chilly man's Fire. There's no Herb like it under the canopy of Heaven."—Kingsley's "Westward Ho!"
In 1 oz., 2 oz., and 4 oz. Packets, lined with tinfoil.
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Black Velvets for trimming purposes, 3s. 11d. to 6s. 9d.
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Well Cut and handsomely Braided,
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FRENCH MODELS.
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Elegant Novelties in Black Spanish Lace and Satin, now so fashionable,
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Very handsome Black Brussels Net Dresses at 29s. 6d.
Also a variety of
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BLACK SPUN SILK STOCKINGS (WHITE TOES AND HEELS), 3s. 6d.
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The warm reception accorded to the
LOUIS VELVETEEN
in Paris—that City of the fashionable—is enough to assure it of success, even were its own intrinsic merits of colour, fineness, lightness, and excellent wearing qualities to constitute an insufficient recommendation. "LOUIS." It was, indeed, a "happy thought" of its manufacturers to stamp it with its own name on every yard, for, having once made a trial of it, we shall not desire to become the purchasers of any other, and there are so many new kinds in the market that there is plenty of competition. Many ladies have adopted the
LOUIS VELVETEEN,
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Ladies are respectfully informed that on and after this date all Louis Velveteen, both "LOUIS." Black and the New Autumn and Winter Colours, have stamped on the back plain instructions for removing all creases, folding-marks, &c., made in conveyance by rail, post, or other causes.

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Pure Cocoa only,
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Anti-Dyspeptic Cocoa or Chocolate Powder.
Guaranteed Pure Soluble Cocoa, with excess of Fat extracted.
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200 Pieces of Rich Black Broché Velvets, 8s. 6d. per yard.

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260 Pieces of Rich French Brocaded Silks, from 4s. 11d. per yard.

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Casimir d'Italie, Grain de Pour, Cachemire de la Reine, Angola Foulé, &c., all pure wool, and dyed by the most eminent Paris dyers, in Black, and every New Colour.
Prices from 14s. 6d. to 25s. the Full Dress.
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Rich Japanese Silk, in Plain and Damassé, 1s. 11d.
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Patterns free.
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BALL AND DINNER DRESSES in the latest Novelties in Tarlatan, Net, Madras Muslin, Gauze, Spanish Lace, &c., in Black and all Colours, from 18s. 9d. to 20Gns.
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Specialities in Grenadine, Cashmere, and Japanese Silk Evening and Dinner Dresses.
The "Marie," in Black Striped Fibre Grenadine, with ample material for bodice, price 21s.
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Can be used also with Crewels and Embroidery Silks.
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ARE CONFIDENTLY RECOMMENDED AS THE MOST COMFORTABLE AND EFFICIENT EVER MADE
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EDSON'S ELECTRIC ARMLETS and WRISTBANDS.—For all persons having tiresome WRITING, SEWING, or MUSIC PRACTICE, they give wonderful energy and strength, enabling the wearer to accomplish tedious work with steadiness and comfort. Price 2s. 6d. per pair, silk web and fine steel clasps, sent to any address on receipt of P.O.O. for 2s. 8d., payable to J. EDSON; address, THE ELECTRIC FABRIC COMPANY, Sole Patentees (New Building), Charlotte-street, Bedford-square, London.

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IF inhaled on the first symptoms, ALKARAM will at once arrest them, and cure severe cases in half an hour. Sold by all Chemists, 2s. 9d. a Bottle. Address, Dr. Dunbar, care of Messrs. F. Newbery and Sons, 1, King Edward-st., E.C.

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THIS celebrated effectual Cure without internal medicine. Sole Wholesale Agents, W. EDWARDS and SON, 157, Queen Victoria-street (formerly of 67, St. Paul's-churchyard), London, whose names are engraved on the Government stamp.
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CURE COUGHS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.
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CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.

IN "NOTES on CONSUMPTION and WASTING DISEASES SUCCESSFULLY TREATED with HYDRATED OIL, with Cases showing the immediate increase in weight by it," see Book published by Diprose, Bateman, and Co., Lincoln's-inn-fields. The ANGLO-AMERICAN DRUG COMPANY, Limited, 33, Farringdon-road, will send a copy free on application.

G. OVEREND DREWRY, M.D., Physician to the National Free Dispensary for Consumption and Wasting Diseases, Author of "Common-Sense Management of the Stomach," &c., referring to cases treated at the National Free Dispensary for Consumption and Wasting Diseases, says that "'Hydroleine' (or Hydrated Oil) produces an effect such as neither cod-liver oil nor any preparation of it with which I am acquainted even faintly approaches, and patients are unanimous in their statement that the appetite is much increased by taking 'Hydrated Oil,' and that, so far from possessing the unpleasant taste of ordinary cod-liver oil, the taste of 'Hydrated Oil' is agreeable rather than the reverse, and is described by some as resembling Devonshire cream. These, I submit, are very important points in cases usually attended by great irritability of stomach. The general improvement in strength shown within a fortnight was in many instances surprising, even to myself, who had seen already in private practice many startling results from its use. My experience, however, shows that in cases where cod-liver oil or an emulsion of it has been depended upon, increase of weight is rarely obtained."—Page 16.

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil),
Equal to Ten times the quantity of Cod-Liver Oil.

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil)
Entirely supersedes plain Cod-Liver Oil.

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil)
Produces rapid increase in flesh.

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil)
Is certain in result, and is pleasant to take.

TRY YOUR WEIGHT!!

TRY YOUR WEIGHT.—HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil) has proved of the highest value as a food in consumption and all wasting diseases, invariably producing increase in flesh and weight. This preparation of Hydrated Cod-Liver Oil is tonic, digestive, and ten times more strengthening and nourishing, as well as far more pleasant to taste, than plain cod-liver oil. Hydroleine may be described as partially digested oil, which will nourish and produce increase of weight in those cases where oils or fat, not so treated, are difficult or impossible to digest. All tendency to emaciation and loss of weight is arrested by the regular use of Hydroleine, which may be discontinued when the usual average weight has been permanently acquired. Of all Chemists, 4s. 6d.; or sent direct, carriage paid, to any address in England for 5s.—Sold wholesale by the ANGLO-AMERICAN DRUG COMPANY, Limited, 33, Farringdon-road, London.

READ the following Extracts from a few among the hundreds of letters received, showing that HYDROLEINE will nourish, and cause young or old to increase in weight where plain cod-liver oil will not; the original letters, with many others, may be seen at our Office.

DR. AUSTIN, of Sunnyside, East Grinstead, writing on May 13, 1880, says:—
"I recommended one patient to get it, and he gained 8 lb. weight in a week; left it off next week, and lost 4 lb. This speaks well."

MR. JAS. STEWART, Chemist, of Dalkeith, writing April 28, 1877, says:—
"I weighed only 116 lb. on March 25, took the Hydroleine very irregularly I must confess, and on April 19 weighed 120 lbs. I found it very pleasant to take, never experienced the least approach to eructation, and rather think it acted very much as a tonic."

WRITING of Hydrated Oil on May 14, 1877, Mr. KENNETH M'DONALD, of Dunkeld, says:—
"I had been taking cod-liver oil all winter myself, and thought I would first experiment on myself with the Hydroleine, and I must say, whether it is that or not, I am much better; in fact, all right again, and I certainly give it the credit, and will recommend it to all in preference to the ordinary oil—it is much easier taken."

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil) has been favourably received by all classes of people, as well as the press, as the following extracts will show:—

MRS. ELLEN COOKE, Weston-super-Mare, in a letter dated May 24, 1879, says:—
"I think the last bottle you sent me has saved the life of a little boy three years old."

MR. J. H. GREGORY, Master of Caxton Workhouse, Cambs., writing on March 12, 1879, says:—
"The effect of the bottle I received from you was marvellous, as I increased nearly 4 lb. in weight, and felt better in every way."

MRS. MARYATT, Bayswater, W., writing on Jan. 22, 1877, speaks of the Hydrated Oil in the following terms:—
"My little boy (aged five and a half years) is so extremely fond of it that he will take it just as it is, without the ginger or orange wine, and will smack his lips after it. As for myself, I can never sound its praises too loudly. I consider it a perfect life-giver."

MR. JOHN MILTON, writing from Liverpool on May 7, 1877, says:—
"Five weeks ago a small pamphlet was handed to me descriptive of your Hydroleine, and since that time my wife has been taking just one bottle a week with certain benefit."

MR. A. BOYCE, Chemist, Hayward's-heath, writing on July 9, 1877, says:—
"I have given it to several consumptive cases, and am pleased to inform you with very good result. The effect of it on two persons (children) has been wonderful. I am trying to make it known everywhere I can."

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil)
Is not a patent medicine.

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil)
Has the formula upon every bottle.

HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil)
Is used to increase flesh.

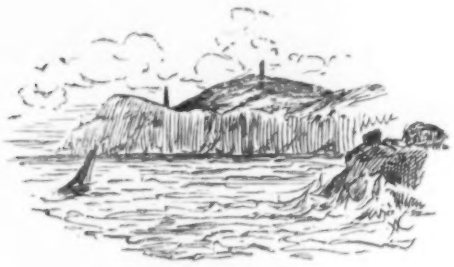
HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil)
May be relied upon to increase weight.

THE CHEMICAL PRINCIPLES upon which HYDRATED OIL is prepared were first described in a treatise on the Assimilation and Digestion of Fats in the Human Body, by H. C. Bartlett, Ph.D., F.C.S., published by Messrs. J. and A. Churchill, New Burlington-street (Fat in the Human Body, page 41):—"Nothing appears to restore the healthy functions of the liver and pancreas in these cases except the frequent ingestion of oil or liquid fat, so treated artificially that it is already partially transformed by fermentation and the reaction of bile. Seized on with avidity by the absorbents, it is insensibly assimilated by the digestive organs, until they gradually become strengthened, not only to provide their own nourishment, but to transform a sufficient quantity of fat to supply the inevitable waste throughout the body."

ALL persons taking HYDROLEINE are particularly urged to keep an ACCOUNT from WEEK to WEEK of their WEIGHT, that the gain and improvement may be shown. The makers, having devoted special attention to perfecting a process by means of which uniformity in the production of HYDRATED OIL is secured, desire to direct the attention of the medical profession and the public to this preparation, to distinguish which the name of HYDROLEINE (Hydrated Oil) has been registered under the Trade-Marks Acts. Ask your Chemist for it. If your Chemist has not the "Hydroleine" in stock, a bottle will be sent from the Factory (carriage paid) to any part of England, on receipt of Post-Office Order, 5s. Sold wholesale by the ANGLO-AMERICAN DRUG COMPANY, Limited, 33, Farringdon-road, London. Pamphlet sent free to any address.

SKETCHES IN PARNELL'S COUNTRY, WICKLOW.

The trial of Mr. Charles Stewart Parnell, M.P., and a dozen other leading members of the Irish Land League, on the indictment for conspiracy which has been framed by the law officers of the Crown in Dublin, will commence on Tuesday next, Dec. 28; the jury list has been prepared and reduced to twenty-four, of which twelve may be challenged and struck out. Mr. Parnell has issued a circular to the Home-Rule Irish members of the House of Commons, inviting them to a con-



WICKLOW HEAD.

ference at Dublin on Monday. A subscription, which now amounts to £10,000, is being raised for the costs of Mr. Parnell's legal defence, and that of the others included in the State prosecution. We gave some particulars concerning it, with biographical notices of Mr. Parnell and others, in our publication of Nov. 20, which contained his portrait and those of Mr. Joseph Gilles Biggar, M.P., and Mr. T. Brennan, secretary to the Land League. A view of Mr. Parnell's residence, Avondale House, Wicklow, has also appeared in this Journal. It was mentioned that he is proprietor of an estate of four or five thousand acres in that county, with copper and silver-lead mines, and large saw-mills, and with a wood-turning factory, in which he makes brush-handles and such articles from the wood grown on his estate. He employs a large number of men and boys, and has about thirty tenants, who mostly hold their farms on long leases, at rents seldom exceeding the Government valuation, and of late years reduced. Mr. Parnell, who is thirty-four years of age, and unmarried, inherited this property from his father, and his ancestors had lived in the same place more than a hundred years.

We give some views of the neighbourhood, on this occasion, under the title of "Parnell's Country;" but it is really one of the most picturesque and interesting districts in Ireland, or in the British Isles, and had been celebrated long before this Mr. Parnell was born. Every person in England has often heard of the Vale of Avoca, or Ovoca, as it is more correctly named; and few tourists in Ireland, having the leisure, fail to visit that beautiful scene, of which Moore has spoken with tender rapture in one of his popular songs. "The Meeting of the Waters" has usually been referred to, by

ENTRANCE TO AVONDALE HOUSE.

local topographers, as the junction of the Avon Beg, or Little Avon, with the Avon More, or Great Avon, just below Castle Howard, the seat of Mr. Howard Brooke. There is, however, another meeting of two rivers, lower down the vale, where the Aughrim flows into the Avoca. The entire length of the vale is nearly eight miles; the nearest small town and railway station is Rathdrum, on the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford line, about thirty miles south of Dublin. It will be readily believed that the romantic and poetical sentiment attaching to this place is turned to the profit of mercenary guides, inn-keepers, and coach-proprietors, who are on the look-out for tourists all through the summer season. The following passages of a letter from our Special Artist, Mr. Wallis Mackay, give his own observations of this neighbourhood:—

"Wooden Bridge Hotel, Vale of Ovoca,
Wicklow, Dec. 6.

"'I intend to return to my place in the country,' said Mr. Parnell, at one of the autumn meetings of the Land League, and in a speech for which he will shortly be arraigned before a jury of his own countrymen; 'and if any peace-officer appears I will put him in the river.' I suppose 'the Master of Avondale' referred to the babbling brook that runs along the foot of his fair lawns, and finally pours its tiny torrent into the junction known throughout Christendom as the 'Meeting of the Waters.' Peaceful and genial is the place of Avondale, even in this period of the year, when one would expect to find snow or storm. 'Brushing ankle deep in grass,' and more than ankle deep in rich brown dead leaves, you may wander for hours about the beauteous demesne of the Parnells, without finding aught but beauty or hearing anything save the call of the wood-birds.

"To get from Dublin to the country of the Parnells you take train at Harcourt-street, Dublin, and travel to Rathdrum on the journey, which is a short one. The chief attraction is to look out upon the lovely Bay of Dublin, with its bold

A TRAVELLING PUBLISHER.

rocky borderings. One of these I have jotted down, not as a note of its beauty, but to indicate "another Irish grievance." You will notice that at the headland known as Wicklow Head, there are three lighthouses. One would think this might be a sufficient stock to go on with; but that is not the grievance. It is simply this: first, the light was placed right down by the breakers on the immediate side of the cliff; this could only be seen by small boats immediately against the shore. Next, it was rebuilt in a secluded hollow, from which place it ineffectually threw its glare, for it could neither be seen by those near shore nor out at sea. This slight defect was corrected by building No. 3 right up on the higher part of the cliff, a position which gave it the enormous advantage of requiring a ship to go out some ten miles to sea in order to be enabled to discern it all. And there the three lights of Wicklow Head pale their ineffectual fires from dusk till sunrise.

"Arrived at Rathdrum, you bend your steps towards Avondale, and as you pass through the street known as the town of Rathdrum the one thing that strikes you as a characteristic is that the tradespeople who boast a legend above their shops are all "Sauls" to a man—and a woman, for that matter, for the women seem mostly the serious workers in the commerce of life. Presently, after a few miles' walk through most lovely country, you come to the ancient house of the Parnells. I don't know whether the poet Parnell (who is an ancestor of the chieftain of the Land League) ever resided at Avondale, but I must say that a more charming and peaceful spot I never visited.

"The entrance to Avondale is insecurely guarded by a notice to the effect that the place is private, and that the proprietor will be inclined to prosecute any form of trespass. However, a very pliable gate and an empty lodge show but little resistance, and at last we stand right on the immediate native heath of Charles Stewart Parnell, the head and front of the entire Irish party. The lodge near the gate at Avondale is a quaint old piece of architecture, and seems to be a portion of a much older form of building than one finds in the house of Avondale. Some one with a wild idea of advance and modernisation has had it whitewashed. Passing the house, which is a cheerless, bilious-looking pile, you

BRUSHMAKING AT AVONDALE.

dip down the hill and under the railway bridge, and then, keeping well within the sound of the purling stream, you come to the scene of Mr. Parnell's mining operations. A more primitive pump than the one I have attempted to sketch I don't think you will find in the dominion of the British Empire. It is ingenious withal; and, when one has followed

MINE PUMP ON AVONDALE ESTATE.

the wire rope which connects it with the water-wheel, some quarter of a mile, the absurdity of the length of the connection is explained by the fact that the same wheel is not only working the pump but the machinery of a wonderful centre of industry in the shape of a brush-handle manufactory. When I say brush-handle, I do not mean the long stick of a sweeping brush or the hilt of a dandy hair brush, but just that portion of a housemaid's broom in which the hairs are fixed. Mr. Parnell has a fine stock of ash wood on his estate, and is utilising it in this way during the operation of digging for gold, silver, or lead, whichever he hopes to strike in the quiet sylvan glades of Avondale.

"A beautiful walk through rows of ash-trees and young pine-masts brings you to the road close to that portion of the Vale of Ovoca known as the Lion's Bridge, so called on account of an ivy-grown archway, on which a wild caricature of the British lion (probably) is cut in granite. On the road here I met an old personage with a small sack over his back. On my inquiring he told me that he was 'a publisher,' and had been to Dublin to buy some Almanacks for the coming year; 'but sorra a wan had he sold,' for he had 'walked five miles at a stritch, and niver a house to be seen, only wan or two up on the hillside, where, if you were to come out av in the dark, you 'd have to fall three times the hoight av thim trees.' I purchased several of his volumes, and learnt from him that he intended waiting two days at Rathdrum for a fair that was coming off, where he hoped to dispose of his little stock, and his after intention was to seek work on a railway somewhere or other. I certainly think that labouring on a railway would

INSCRIPTION ON MOORE'S OAK,
AT "THE MEETING OF THE WATERS."

be work of a more exciting nature than bookselling in the heart of Wicklow.

"Turning to the right from the Lion's Bridge, a few steps brings you to the first Meeting of the Waters, where the rivers Avonbeg and Avonmore unite, and where the oak under which Moore is said to have sat and written bears a legend of some originality. This is the very limit of the Parnell country, and the road ahead leads to the town of Newbridge, and further on the Wooden Bridge Hotel, at the second Meeting of the Waters.

Where these four valleys part—
The Gold-mine Vale, and the Aughrim,
And Ovoca and Glenart.

The wild and beautiful hills on each side of the river that now roars in a sufficiently pretentious condition to satisfy even Mr. Parnell in the matter of the peace officer, are nothing marred in effect by the strange engineering operations of the mines that honeycomb them. I was struck by the aspect of one of these strange wild mining colonies, with its deserted village and abandoned shafts. And now the Wooden Bridge is at hand, and dinner is soon to be had. Boiled turkey and bacon, the great boast of Wicklow, is not a bad repast after a long day's ramble, and is inclined to make one to take a more cheerful view of the condition of the country than before. And afterwards, leaning over the bridge (which is a stone one, by-the-way) and listening to the murmuring stream and gazing on the soft, dark curves of the surrounding hills, wrapt in their silence, it is hard to think that even this quiet nook of nature has been affected by the Land League agitation that is convulsing the country, and that the very hostelry that you have been dining in will, in a few hours, be visited by men with blackened faces and wild imprecations, and the night made hideous by their shouts and gun-shots."

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THE MANOR HOUSE: ARRIVAL OF GUESTS.

BY S. READ.